Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Islamic Affairs

Popular Islamic Conference Calls for Jihad

NC1801223091 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1734 GMT 18 Jan 91

["Appeal" by the General Secretariat of the Popular Islamic Conference in Baghdad, on 18 January 1991—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. We shall try you until we test those among you who strive their utmost and persevere in patience; and we shall try your reported mettle. In faith speaketh the Almighty. [Koranic verse].

An appeal from the general secretariat of the popular Islamic conference organization to the reputable scholars of the nation and all the [words indistinct] and Islamic organizations all over the world. God is great; God is great; God is great. [word indistinct]

O followers of the Muhammadan nation everywhere: To those against whom war is made, permission is given to fight because they are wronged; and verily God is most powerful for their aid. [Koranic verse]

The great showdown in the mother of all battles between all the faithful and the infidel gang has begun. The criminal Zionists and the atheist Americans, British, French, and the enemies of Islam allied with them—those atheists and traitor renegades of the Sa'ud family—have mounted their treacherous attack against the vanguards of the Muhammadan nation—Iraq, the steadfast, the struggler, the citadel of Islam, and the torch of faithfulness—to assassinate the Muslim nation and extinguish the light of Koran.

Paradise has opened its doors and [words indistinct]. The caller has called for jihad. Go ye forth whether equipped lightly or heavily and strive and struggle. And strive in His cause as ye ought to strive. [Koranic verses] [passage indistinct]

It is the [word indistinct] hour you have been impatiently waiting for. It is the battle of the apostle of God, may the Almighty's prayers and peace be on him, against the sects, the sects of atheism, apostasy, and hypocrisy.

Your fraternal Iraqi faithful mujahidin have taken the course of jihad. They rallied under the banner of the leader of mujahidin Saddam Husayn as he raises the banner of the apostle of God, may the Almighty's prayers and peace be on him, and fights the criminal Jews, and the [word indistinct] atheists, and the despicable renegades with the victorious banner. God is great.

The leader of the faithful and his people have sold themselves to the Almighty, the God of the universe. They acted upon their faith in the Almighty's words: God hath purchased of the believers their persons and their goods, for theirs in return is the garden of paradise; they fight in his cause and slay and are slain; a promise binding on Him in truth, through the law, the gospel and the Quran. and who is more faithful to his covenant than God? Then rejoice in the bargain which ye have concluded. That is the achievement supreme. [Koranic verses]

Ye nation of Islam; ye nation of jihad; jihad is the summit of Islam's perfection and its [word indistinct]. The status assumed by mujahidin is the highest in this world and hereafter.

Ye factions of mujahidin: A few days ago, you gathered together in your universal popular Islamic conference in Baghdad, the city of victory and peace. You decided unanimously to declare jihad against the atheists, the traitors, and renegades if Muslim and steadfast Iraq is subjected to aggression by criminal Zionists and atheist Americans. The citadel of faith, Baghdad, and the resting place of the pure imams, the household and the companions of the Prophet, may the Almighty's prayers and peace be on him, and the imams of this religion are coming under the profligate bombardment of the Americans, Zionists, and their evil allies. It is an aggression to impose hegemony on the paradise of faith and the symbol of Islam.

Jihad has become the duty of every Muslim east and west of the universe. [passage indistinct] and the French and their agents everywhere. March against the [word indistinct] rulers and the mean, atheist renegades who have sold themselves, their religion, and their God in collaboration with the criminal Jews, the [word indistinct] Americans. What an evil bunch of vanquished atheists!

Today is the day of great Islam. O factions of Islamic jihad in dear Egypt: Topple the coward traitor Husni and let the Egyptian Army and mujahidin go to the battlefield along with the gathering of believers. O pious scholars of Hejaz and Najd [Saudi Arabia]: Remove the slave of the infidels, the accursed traitor Fahd. Remove the atheists from the Arabian Peninsula in compliance with the order of the messenger of God, may the blessings of God be upon him. O mujahidin factions everywhere: Close your ranks and (?dedicate) yourselves to justice. Disperse the ranks of enemies and shake the ground under their feet. Kill them wherever you find them. Let them be the (?victims) of the fire of sedition that they have set. Today is the day of the great pledge of allegiance to Almighty God, Who supports His soldiers and militant servants. God is great. How great this pledge of allegiance is! How great is the reward of this pledge of allegiance! God is [words indistinct]. The reward is the Garden of Eden [words indistinct]. Urge your governments to declare jihad against the infidels and renegades. Unseat the miserable rulers who have no dignity, sense of honor, or faith, and who do not follow the course of jihad.

You will see how the gathering of infidelity will be defeated and will retreat with the support of God, Who revealed the Koran, sends rain, and defeats the enemies. It is the promise of God to his good servants. Our soldiers will prevail. God will support those who support

His cause. God is all-powerful. [passage indistinct]. It is the day of great jihad that you have been awaiting, O Muslim mujahidin, and which God has made available for you. Therefore, hasten to take part in the honor of jihad, and gain one of the two aspired results [victory or martyrdom]. Obey the call of God. God is great. Praise be to God, Who supports His servants and soldiers and defeats the enemies. Glory to God, His messenger, and the believers.

[Signed] The General Secretariat of the Popular Islamic Conference Organization, Baghdad, 31 Jumada al-Hakhirah, 1411 Hegira, 18 January 1991.

Palestinian Affairs

BILD Says Saddam Ordered Khalaf Killing

AU1801125891 Hamburg BILD in German 18 Jan 91 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Husayn Ordered Killing of 'Arafat deputy Iyad"]

[Text] 'Arafat's deputy was killed in Tunis three days ago. As BILD has now learned, the order for the murder was given by Saddam Husayn.

Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf] was against PLO leader 'Arafat's switch from the Saudis to Saddam Husayn in Baghdad.

As the Terrorism Research Institute in Bonn announced, Abu-Iyad met with 'Arafat's arch enemy, Syrian President Al-Asad, as recently as at the beginning of this year.

PLO Said Involved in Political Solution Search

NC1901203491 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1925 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] The PLO today called on the EC to join the international efforts to end the Gulf war. Bassam Abu-Sharif, Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, said that UN resolutions on the Gulf and other Middle East problems constitute the legal basis for a political solution. He said that the PLO is devoting all its (?efforts) to attain this objective. He added that the PLO hopes that the EC and the UN Security Council will respond positively for the sake of ending the war.

In a statement to REUTER, Abu-Sharif said there is a possibility of attaining a political solution in the Middle East and that despite the current war, there is a prospect of avoiding a real catastrophe.

The Palestinian news agency WAFA reported that 'Arafat, who received an official urgent message dealing with the Gulf crisis from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday, is participating in efforts to attain peace. It said that 'Arafat met with the Iraqi ambassador to Tunisia last night. Palestinian sources report that the PLO leadership is maintaining contact with Iraqi leaders in Baghdad and that Moscow is trying to arrange a cease-fire in the Gulf war.

Envoy to CSFR Denies Terrorism Planned

LD1801191591 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 18 Jan 91

[Text] Frantisek Miklosko, chairman of the Slovak National Council, today received in Bratislava Samih 'Abd-al-Fattah, extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the state of Palestine in Czechoslovakia. They briefly explained to each other their views on the current development in the world. The Palestinian ambassador said that the current war conflict in the Persian Gulf will soon spread to other territories, that this is not a war of the United States against Iraq but of North against South on a global scale. The United States allegedly does not fulfill in the Gulf the UN resolutions but instead tries, under this cover, to reinforce its economic position, to enable it to face united Europe and Japan more successfully. Well, everybody has a right to his own view.

Our editor Dalibor Klima, who took part in the meeting, asked the ambassador for an interview; this actually took place in the car taking the ambassador from the Slovak National Council to the office of the government:

[Begin recording] [Klima] Your excellency, let me ask you a question of interest to all listeners in Slovakia: The beginning of the conflict in Iraq and Kuwait was also to be the beginning of retaliatory actions al around the world. Palestinian citizens are often mentioned in this connection. What is your official view on this?

['Abd-al-Fattah in Arabic, fading into Slovak translation] The PLO's standpoint has been distorted since the beginning of the crisis. Information about possible Palestinian terrorist actions, as carried in the press, are not true. The Palestinians have always condemned any terrorism carried out by anybody, and they themselves are its victims. The Zionist groups accusing the Palestinians of preparing terrorist actions want in this way to create an anti-Palestinian and anti-Arab mood and thus prepare the Czechoslovak public for adopting steps prepared in advance against the PLO and the state of Palestine. This is a new anti-Semitism against Semitic Arabs. Czechoslovakia has been and is for the Arabs a friendly country, and no Arab is planning to do anything bad against Czechoslovakia. The Czechoslovak authorities would do better to coordinate their work with the embassies of the Arab countries rather than listen to unverified information. I must note with regret that due to this campaign the Palestinian Arabs could become a target of aggression in Czechoslovakia. I again remind you that we have been and we are the victims of terrorism. The evidence of this is a terrorist act committed last week against the Palestinian representatives.

[Klima] Last question: Do you see any retaliatory action in Europe or elsewhere in the world as terrorism?

['Abd-al-Fattah] Yes, and we condemn terrorism in all its forms. We are convinced that problems could be dealt with only through dialogue. This is the official PLO

policy. I would bet that nobody in Czechoslovakia has verified the reports on prepared terrorist actions, and I repeat yet again that to spread them is a source of discrimination and racism against the Palestinians and the Arabs. [end recording]

PLO Promises No Terrorism

LD1901182391 Madrid in Spanish to Europe 1500 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] In Spain, a PLO representative during an interview granted to the magazine TIEMPO, has said that his organization will not carry out any act of terrorism in those countries involved in the Gulf war.

Officials Voice Support for Iraq, Jordan

JN2201123891 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—Palestinian officials living in Jordan Monday voiced their absolute support for Iraq in the face of American aggression and lauded Jordan's stand with regard to the current situation in the Gulf.

In a statement addressed to parliaments of Arab and Islamic countries, these personalities called for backing Iraq's just cause and for denouncing those countries taking part in the aggression on the Iraqi people.

The statement, which was signed by the speaker of the Palestine National Council, members of the PLO's Executive Committee, Palestine ambassador in Jordan and several members of the central committee of Fatah, urged Arab workers to boycott American ships and aircraft and to stop work at oil installations pumping crude to American ships and aircraft. The statement also urged workers to deal in a similar manner with other countries considered hostile to the Arab Nation for their involvement in the aggression on Iraq.

The statement urged Arab and Islamic governments to extend speedy help to Iraq and urged the masses to exert pressure on their governments which support Washington's aggression to change their position.

The statement condemned the Turkish government's position towards the crisis and Ankara's permission to NATO forces to use Turkish airbases to launch raids on Iraq.

The statement paid tribute to the government and people of Iran for their support of the Iraqi people and demanded quick Islamic moves to end the aggression on Iraq.

DFLP Urges Turning Battle Into Liberation

NC2201223091 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2120 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] says that the beginning of the U.S.-Zionist aggression against Iraq is the battle of the great and total confrontation.

The DFLP says in a statement: Let us decide to wage this battle with all the people's energies and let us turn it into a battle to liberate the Arab land from the invaders and their treasonous agents.

It adds: We are destined to fight. We must fight and achieve victory. Let all patriots unite to repel the aggression.

The DFLP emphasizes that the U.S.-Zionist aggression against Iraq is the beginning of a widespread war in our region, whose outcome, resultant catastrophe, and widespread implications cannot be foreseen.

PLF Orders Strikes Against U.S. Interests

NC2201184191 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jan (INA)—Comrade 'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad, member of the PLO Executive Committee and secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front, has stressed that, at this time when Iraq is confronting a savage U.S.-Zionist-Atlantic onslaught, all Arab and Muslim strugglers and free and honest men have no alternative but to stand in the forefront to defend their values and principles.

In a statement to INA, Ahmad said that, in its struggle and steadfastness Iraq is now the Mecca of the Arabs and the center of their hopes. With its promised and expected victory, Iraq will save the Arabs from their ordeal and pain and rescue humanity from the evil deeds of the oppressors.

Iraq's victory in this historic confrontation and great battle—the mother of all battles—will lead to the reconquest of steadfast and patient Palestine and to the liberation of the Holy al-Aqsa mosque from Zionism, which is the creation of imperialism and colonialism and the den of the evil within our Arab Palestinian land.

Comrade Ahmad said that the Iraqi missiles of justice have fallen on Tel Aviv, announcing that the time of deliverance has come and that every form of imperialism and invasion must leave the Arab lands. Iraq represents the nation's strength, capability, pride, and noble character. On behalf of all, Arab Iraq is bearing the trust and responsibility in removing darkness from Arab lands.

The savage U.S.-Zionist-Atlantic aggression will not shake Iraq's determination, nor will it weaken the Iraqi people's heroic resolve and the proud stand the masses of our Arab nation have taken in defense of its existence now and in the future.

He noted that, amid the flames of this confrontation between the group of believers and the crowd of infidels, we glimpse a new Arab future. We can glimpse Palestine returning to its people. And we behold Arab leader and struggler Saddam Husayn leading the nation to the highest heights of glory and pride.

Comrade Ahmad added: We urge our heroic Palestinian people in our occupied Palestinian land to escalate their struggle and heroic intifadah in a relentless war against the usurping Zionist entity.

We urge the masses of our Arab nation and the Muslims to expand the theater of confrontation over the whole world. They must strike violently all U.S. interests and institutions everywhere.

We also stress that we have issued orders to all Palestine Liberation Front fighters wherever they are to start implementing all the missions assigned to them in accordance with a previously laid plan and to participate in this fateful confrontation.

PFLP-GC Issues Statement Supporting Iraq

NC2201222091 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Jan 91 p 13

[Statement issued by the Central Committee of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command on 20 January 1991]

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] Central Committee held an extraordinary meeting on 20 January 1991 devoted to reviewing the serious events in our region and the fateful danger it poses to our Palestinian cause, our Arab nation, and its future and struggle. From a position of national and pan-Arab responsibility, the committee discussed the explosive situation represented by the U.S.-NATO aggression against our people in Iraq, seen as a U.S. effort to strike the Arab nation and the battle of its liberation and Islamic awakening through what America calls the new world order—which America is beginning to implement in our region. The United States, the NATO alliance, and Zionism embarked on their criminal aggression against Iraq with the declared goal of evicting Iraq from Kuwait.

However, the course of events and the bestial bombardment that covered Iraq from north to south demonstrates that the liberation of Kuwait is merely a pretext and the real goal is to strike at Iraq, its people and army, and to destroy its material and economic base and regional unity. The reason is to rearrange the region in a way that suits the U.S. and Zionist objectives, interests, and aggressive strategy, as well as to strike, intimidate, and contain all countries of the region: Syria, Jordan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and to quell and finish off the heroic intifadah and liquidate the Palestinian issue and the Palestinian people's rights.

The PFLP-GC condemns the U.S.-NATO-Zionist aggression against our Arab people in Iraq and warns the Arab and Islamic nation and the countries of the region of the serious undeclared goals behind this aggression whose effects and hazards will go beyond Iraq and Kuwait and affect the Arab and Islamic nation, the independence of its countries and the future of its peoples. The PFLP-GC appeals to the Arab and Islamic countries to bring about an immediate halt to the aggression against Iraq and resolve the Kuwaiti problem within an Arab-Islamic framework free from U.S.-Zionist interference, provocations, and plots.

The PFLP-GC has decided to continue its meetings to study the developments and probabilities of the crisis. It calls for a firm confrontation of U.S. imperialism and Zionism and their policy of world hegemony and of containing our region as part of their aggressive strategy and policy. It appeals to the peoples of the region to confront the U.S. interests in order to stop its aggression, threats, and continuous plots against the Arab and Islamic nation. The recent crying for the Zionist entity shown by the United States and its NATO and Western alliance deceives no one, not even our Palestinian and Arab Muslim people, who are struck and repressed daily by Zionism and its terrorist actions with full U.S. political and military backing.

The PFLP-GC warns of the seriousness of the Israeli role in the crisis and of the Israeli officials' threats to Jordan in particular. It declares its readiness and duty to defend our people in Jordan and to intensify and escalate the struggle and fan the conflict with the Zionist enemy. It affirms that keeping and fanning the conflict with the Zionists is an Islamic, pan-Arab, and national duty that the Arab and Islamic nation and their liberation movement must place as a first priority in their struggle in confronting the Zionist enemy. They must use all means to achieve this goal. It condemns any step or approach aimed at containing, relegating, or ending the conflict through any capitulatory or liquidatory plans. It calls for escalating the heroic intifadah in Palestine and for promoting the armed struggle until all Palestine is liberated.

[Signed] The PFLP-GC Central Committee

[Dated] 20 January 1991.

Algeria

Bendjedid To Address Emergency Assembly Session

LD2201223691 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] The People's National Assembly will hold tomorrow an extraordinary session at the request of the president of the republic, who is expected to address the nation. The session follows the wide consultations held by the president with representatives of the various political parties and professional organizations, which focused in particular on the developments of the Gulf crisis and a review of Algeria's position, and its continued efforts since 2 August 1990 for reaching a peaceful solution to the crisis in the region.

Foreign Minister, French Official Discuss Gulf

LD2201114191 Algiers APS in Arabic 1000 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Algiers, 22 Jan (APS)—Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali met with Francois Scheer, secretary general of the French Foreign Ministry on Sunday. During this meeting, the Algerian foreign minister expressed to his counterpart the deep (?sadness) of the Algerian people regarding the intense shelling of the Iraqi people. It is becoming more and more apparent that the aim behind this aggression is the destruction of Iraqi economic, technological, and military capabilities.

A top official at the Foreign Ministry, who is closely following the Gulf crisis developments, was cited as saying that Mr Ghazali told his interlocutor that if the Western alliance expects Iraq to surrender, it is his deep conviction that Iraq will never surrender irrespective of the means used against it.

This top official said that Mr Ghazali indicated that due to the serious course of events, it looks as if we are now witnessing a real war being waged by the Western alliance against an Arab and Muslim country; and that member-states of this alliance should consider its ramifications on their future relations with the Arab and Muslim world.

Mr Ghazali also recalled the Algerian initiative put forward to the UN Security Council that calls for an immediate halt to military operations and for a resumption of diplomatic efforts to find a suitable settlement to the crisis.

The foreign minister dwelled on the situation of the Algerian community in France, namely during the current tense situation in Europe, and emphasized the need for the French authorities to take the appropriate measures to protect Algerian nationals and safeguard their dignity.

Community Defends Government Stand on Gulf War

LD2001111491 Algiers APS in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Excerpt] In an authorized political commentary, APS expressed the day before yesterday, Friday, its astonishment at Algeria's stance since war broke out against Iraq, which is the standpoint contained in the Foreign Ministry's statement.

After mentioning the diligent efforts which Algeria has made in order to prevent war, APS pointed out at the same time that during the past five months Riyadh made all efforts to contain the crisis and prevent a tragedy from happening in the region.

In order to remain within the respect of the [words indistinct] APS sees that it is duty bound to express its astonishment at another one. [sentence as heard] Otherwise, how can one be astonished by a natural logical stance in such tragic circumstances.

First, is it possible to be jubilant and shout with joy following the complete and comprehensive elimination of a fraternal country [words indistinct] devoted all means to that?

Second, is it possible to remain silent at a time when a capital is subjected to a terrible shelling carried out by the biggest arsenal causing losses which are not only material but also human, taking the lives of innocent Arabs?

Third, is it possible to remain silent when this arsenal is targeting its (?strikes) against one sole target, which is Iraq, while its mission was represented as, it seemed, the liberation of Kuwait?

Fourth, in order to avoid falling into a blatant collusion with the agressors, was it not more appropriate to express the stance of a whole people rather than please any power?

Fifth, how can one approve of the fact that such a huge military asset is subjected to a studied and organized operation of destruction with all the consequences to which this can lead?

These are the questions which (?come) to mind at first sight. However, these remain other questions.

First, who spontaneously paralyzed the Arab-Arab dialogue at the [word indistinct] summit which was held to find a peaceful outlet for the occupation of Kuwait? Algeria was (?among the first) countries to condemn it.

Second, who opened the way for the internationalization of the conflict at the political level and then at the military level?

Third, who agreed that the fleet of foreign forces should tread on holy lands, as far as Muslims are concerned?

Fourth, who gave indirect approval to foreign forces to carry out the aggression and planted fear within a fraternal people?

Fifth, who is footing the bill for the destruction of an Arab asset which does not personally belong to Saddam Husayn, but to the people of Iraq? Here one would like to remind others that nations do just vanish with the departure of individuals.

These questions are sufficient to ascertain who is right and who is wrong. Algeria has enough peace of mind to express its stance with full responsibility. In this, Algeria is fully aware of the sublime interests of the Arab nation and not the interests of regimes irrespective of what type they are. Algeria, out of its own conviction and out of the conviction of its people and leadership, would like to caution every person on the seriousness of the responsibilities he shoulders. It goes without saying the current circumstances require a sincere admission that the Arab nation today is passing the darkest phase of its existence. [passage omitted]

Demonstrations, Marches Support Iraqi People

LD2001124891 Algiers APS in English 1140 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Algiers, 20 Jan 91 (APS)—Thousands of demonstrators took part in the Iraq people support marches and protested against the foreign coalition's aggression against Iraq. A delegation representing ten political parties and organizers of the Iraqi people support marches was received by the secretary general of the presidency who assured the availability of the head of state to open a dialogue with the political parties to explain Algeria's position vis a vis the Gulf war. This delegation was also informed that President Chadli considers the nationals appeals and concerns around the Gulf war but one should ward off skiddings. This revolted crowd, chanted hostile slogans against the imperialist aggression against Iraq and innocents' massacre caused by coalition's forces with unprecedented destruction means. "Such an aggression against a brotherly people calls on consciousness particularly that of intellectuals and youths to react, for Arab and Muslim peoples' fate is seriously endangered" declared the Minister to Universities Mustapha Cherif in call to the university community that organized meetings to support Iraqi people's fight.

Democratic Generation Party Registered in Algiers

LD1501123391 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 13 Jan 91

[Text] The Democratic Generation Party [Parti de la Generation Democratique] today received its authorization. This is indicated by a communique from the Ministry of the Interior. The Democratic Generation [Party] thus becomes the 36th political grouping to receive authorization. The first secretary of the party is (Sidali Habdabi).

Egypt

Mubarak Interviewed on Gulf War 22 Jan

NC2201145091 Cairo Egyptian Space Channel in Arabic 1057 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Interview with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak by unidentified reporter at the Presidential Office on 22 January—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What is your comment on the war being waged to liberate Kuwait now that five days have passed?

[Mubarak] Egypt's stance on this issue is firm; it has not and will not change. Egypt is a prominent country in the region. Egypt cannot but remain on the side of legitimacy. Otherwise, it would not be Egypt.

I am for the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces, because the occupation of an Arab country by force is very serious. Nobody toward the end of the 20th Century can accept this. We have warned of this since the first day. I was afraid of this during the first meeting with President Saddam Husayn. I asked him about the use of force. He did not give me any indication at all that force would be used.

The use of force against each other—as an Arab nation—is very serious. Iraq should withdraw. Without withdrawal from Kuwait, we cannot convince the international community to stop this operation. The Security Council discussed the subject and issued many resolutions, the last of which was that it is permissible to use force to liberate Kuwait.

We cannot today say we are going to announce a cease-fire initiative. Who would listen to this and who would accept it? A cease-fire and the continued presence of the forces in Kuwait would be a violation of the resolution issued by the Security Council. We cannot discuss such a thing; and if we talk about this, the international community will not accept it at all.

Egypt's stance is firm, we are in favor of liberation and the return of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government. And for this purpose, our forces are deployed in Saudi Arabia—in accordance with a request from Saudi Arabia—alongside the Arab and friendly forces that were called to defend Saudi Arabia. This is, of course, in implementation of the Arab summit resolutions, which are linked with the Arab Collective Defense Pact that was ratified by our Parliament in 1951. We have sent our forces to implement this law or this agreement. Therefore, Egypt should take such a firm position. We cannot vacillate or take a position and then go back on it. Our position was the result of study; it is logical. Our position is not random.

One of the parties calls for the withdrawal of forces. How? Can Egypt do such a thing? Egypt's value lies in its firm positions and in supporting the just position of the Arab nation. How can we adopt a position and [words indistinct] withdraw forces? I cannot understand the aim of the people who say this. What is the purpose of the call

to withdraw the forces? And in whose interest is this? Can we accept the occupation of land by force? Israel will then say: You, an Arab country, accept the principle of occupying land by force, so how can you want me to (?leave the land) or solve the Palestine question? This is Egypt's position; it has not changed and it will not change. Any president of Egypt could not take another position. Otherwise, it would not be Egypt, the shield of the Arab nation that we speak of, or the prominent country in the region that whole world sees. Our position must be respected on the Arab and world levels. Otherwise, we will lose our credibility.

[Reporter] For the first time, Israel has been hit by missiles. What is the strategic significance of this?

[Mubarak] The issue of missiles is a strange thing. We know that the missile did not have any impact; it did nothing. It was merely an explosion. It seems this operation was designed to embroil Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and the Arab nation. He wants to drown the Arab nation. I cannot understand what President Saddam wants. Does he want to set the world on fire—to burn himself and his enemies? Where has he been up until now? Israel has existed since 1948. What have the two or three missiles that he has fired done? He is treating Saudi Arabia like Israel. He fired at Israel once, but Israel did not respond; he fired again at Israel, and, praise be to God, it did not respond. When he saw that it had not responded, he went to Saudi Arabia. This morning, I think he fired three or four missiles. He speaks about the holy lands and the presence of the foreigners in the holy places, and then he fires missiles at the holy places. Today he strikes at Riyadh, tomorrow he will fire at another place.

So, it is not a matter of principles. There are absolutely no principles at stake. There are no principles whatsoever behind such a stand. Unfortunately, this will regrettably expose the Iraqi people, who are helpless, to fighting and bloodshed and will endanger the Iraqi Army, and both the people and the Army are Arabs and Muslims like us. One is saddened at what is taking place, which is the result of a decision by one individual. We want an end to the bloodshed and bloodletting. Why don't you [Saddam] make a decision and pull out of Kuwait, an Arab country. You awarded the amir of Kuwait the highest medal in Iraq only seven or eight months ago. How can you give him the highest medal, and then take Kuwait with the medal? It is really saddening, and any interpretation other than that, I personally cannot approve, and I believe all Egyptians citizens must support this stand.

[Reporter] Unfortunately, there have been some demonstrations in Sudan urging Saddam Husayn to strike at the High Dam and some [words indistinct].

[Mubarak] It was very strange for me to hear of a demonstration by the Islamic Front in Sudan demanding a strike against the High Dam. The High Dam is a symbol. And the Pyramids? What is the relation between the High Dam and the Pyramids? They are all hired demonstrators. I do not believe the Sudanese people believe in such thinking. However, let me say something. Let all Egyptians on this homeland rest assured that I will not allow, under any circumstances, any aggression against a single inch of the territories of Egypt. As for hitting the High Dam, he will not be able to do so. Even if he did manage to deploy anything in Sudan, of course, I will not ignore it, and Sudan will pay a high price. The officials who agree to this will pay a very high price. For me, this is absolutely no joking matter. He will not be able to strike the High Dam. Let him do it, and he will miss. How could he do it? But I will teach him an instant lesson. Before 24 hours pass, I will have retaliated for my country, and I have the capability to do so. I hope that those who keep saying these things about striking at the Pyramids and the Sphinx. [sentence as heard] I do not know what else they want to strike. Never mind.

[Reporter] Why is Egypt, in particular, the subject of this hostility by some Arab countries.

[Mubarak] Not by some Arab countries, actually, the demonstrations are only in Sudan, and perhaps some things in Algeria. However, I do not want to comment on this because President Chadli Bendjedid is our brother and friend, and Egypt helped Algeria and took a beating for it in 1956 because of our support for the liberation of Algeria from the French. I really cannot comment on this stand, or the stand of any other country, particularly the countries that are calling for the dispatch of an Arab force after the cease-fire. Fine, reach a cease-fire and send an Arab army to liberate Kuwait. It would be all the better for me. If they did that, I would lift them up on my shoulders and go on a demonstration. Just let them go and liberate Kuwait, and let them even stay in Kuwait if they want to stay there for defense. We do not object. We do not want to keep anything for ourselves. We stand behind right, logic, and legitimacy, nothing else.

[Reporter] Mr. President, you are a military man. I would like to know your excellency's opinion about the change in the military operations plan, as we see that the military operations have been prolonged and the ground forces have not been involved yet.

[Mubarak] Indeed, for the ground forces to begin operations, the ground must be fully prepared, so there are no losses among our forces. I believe we are all concerned about that. We do not have an air force bombarding Iraq. You know that. The air forces bombarding Iraq are from the states that have such a capability, with the participation of our brothers in the [Saudi] Kingdom and Kuwait, as they have announced, as well as the United States, England, France, and other states. We have troops deployed in Saudi Arabia. As I hear from statements, the skies are clear, but still the situation needs preparation. The ground forces take part only after intensive fire preparation. I hope that President Saddam will withdraw his troops from Kuwait. The matter, as I see it, is not easy. The gravest losses will be inflicted on the Iraqi Army. Those in the Iraqi Army are our brothers. They are citizens and Muslims. He must realize

this. What logic is there in causing the death of thousands of these people? What will you achieve? This situation will never be left like this and the occupation will never continue. These forces insist on the liberation of Kuwait. Why, brother, should we endanger our sons. Had I been in his shoes, I would not have waited for the war to start. I would have taken a stand proudly before I got beaten up. Why should I endanger the people, why? They are a secure, harmless people. Why? This is a catastrophe.

Mubarak, al-Qadhdhafi Exchange Messages on Crisis

NC2201153491 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1225 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak today received a message from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, in response to the message he sent to al- Qadhdhafi. This came in a statement by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif after meeting with President Mubarak today. Al-Sharif said that Col. al-Qadhdhafi's message reflects an understanding of the situation in the Arab arena resulting from the continuing war to liberate Kuwait. The message also reflects a complete understanding of the seriousness of expanding the framework of battle and the attempts made by Saddam Husayn to involve other parties in the conflict.

The information minister said that the message reflects the clear view that the natural right is the return of legitimacy, the return of Kuwait, and the departure of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Safwat al-Sharif said that President Mubarak's message and Col. al-Qadhdhafi's response fall within the framework of exchanging views and assessing the positions in accordance with the great understanding and strong relations between the two leaders and peoples, as well as the determination of both Egypt and Libya to implement agreements that call for not allowing any obstruction to working in the interest of the two sisterly peoples.

Al-Sharif added that he presented to President Mubarak, during the meeting, a report on his visit to Libya.

Safwat al-Sharif returned to Cairo last night after a short visit to Libya.

Iraq's Missile Attacks on Israel Criticized

NC2201113691 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0819 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA)—Under the headline "A Heavy Price," AL-AHRAM affirms that Saddam Husayn's unsuccessful missile attacks on Israel resulted in intensified U.S. air raids on Iraq and in the resolve of the anti-Iraq alliance to destroy all its forces. This is in addition to the possibility of beginning strikes on civilian and strategic targets in Iraq, such as power and water stations, railroads, transportation centers, and vital industries.

AL-AHRAM says: Saddam Husayn's strikes on Israel also resulted in turning Israel—perhaps for the first time—into an aggrieved country. This will give it the right before the whole world to respond militarily to Iraq and deal with the Arabs under the pretext that they are always embarking on aggression against it. This will have a negative effect on the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The paper notes the two proposals presented by the USSR and Morocco to stop the battles in the Gulf on the basis of implementing the UN resolutions, provided that Baghdad signals that it is willing to withdraw from Kuwait.

The paper expresses hope that Iraq will respond to these initiatives earnestly to prevent the explosion in the situation, to save Iraq and what is left from its military, civilian, and economic capabilities, and to restore stability to the Gulf and the world once again.

Preparations Under Way for Ground Attack

NC2201204691 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1953 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Hafar al-Batin, 22 Jan (MENA)—Advance units of the joint [Arab and Islamic] forces in [Saudi Arabia's] eastern and northern provinces have established a network of communication with the various units of the joint forces. The network is linked with the command of the air and air defense forces. This has been done as part of the preparations for a military ground operation to liberate Kuwait.

MENA's military editor reported today that preparations are going on all the time at the scene of operations in the eastern and northern provinces. Convoys of vehicles and heavy trucks carrying supplies and administrative personnel can be seen coming from the al-Ruq'i and Hafar al-Batin areas and passing various road junctions. Military police vehicles are controlling the movement of ground forces and are stationed at major road junctions.

An integrated field hospital behind the confrontation lines has been completed and has been equipped with helicopters.

In a related development, there are almost no signs of civilian activity in Hafar al-Batin except for some activity connected with the provision of supplies, civilian police patrols, the Saudi Red Crescent, and the National Arab Bank. [passage omitted]

'Unofficial' Somali Conciliation Meeting Postponed

NC2201202891 Cairo MENA in English 1829 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, Jan 22 (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, tonight met with the Italian ambassador to Egypt.

The meeting reviewed the current situation in Somalia in the light of the new Government's steps, aimed at realizing a cease-fire in the Somali capital.

The meeting resulted in postponing the unofficial meeting for conciliation, previously scheduled to be held here on February 4.

The two sides also agreed to continue contacts with all parties concerned in Somalia to consolidate ongoing attempts at effecting conciliation.

Egypt Air To Resume Flights to UAE 24 Jan

NC2201223391 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2110 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Jan (MENA)—Egypt Air has decided to resume flights to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] as of Thursday, 24 January, following a seven-day suspension due to the Gulf war.

Muhammad Radi, Egypt Air regional manager in Abu Dhabi, stated that the decision was made in response to a request by Egyptian travelers and teachers who wish to spend the mid-year holiday in Egypt. He pointed out that flights to the UAE will be organized in accordance with actual needs, taking the risks involved into consideration.

Libya

Al-Qahdhafi Interviewed on Gulf Situation

PM2201153491

[Editorial Report] London ITN Television Network in English at 1900 GMT on 19 January on the Channel Four "The World This Week" program carries a 10-minute live interview, via satellite, with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Tripoli, and in the studio with former Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Naval Forces in Europe (1987-89) Admiral Edward Martin, by program presenter Sheena McDonald. The following is the text of al-Qadhdhafi's interview [al-Qadhdhafi speaks in Arabic with superimposed English translation]:

[McDonald] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, you led an anti-war demonstration in Tripoli this afternoon. If Saddam Husayn withdraws from Kuwait the war will end. Do you think he will do that ?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Surely, the people of Kuwait [words indistinct] in accordance with the declarations from the allied forces, surely the war would be ended.

[McDonald] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, I know that you do speak English and our understanding was that you would speak in English, given the short satellite time we have to do this with you. People are anxious to hear what you have to say. Can I ask you to reply in English?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I will try, but I am (?not very good).

[McDonald] Can I simply ask what Saddam Husayn will do now?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I cannot exactly expect what he will do. But he will do like anyone being attacked by foreign forces. He will fight against this aggression. He considers this is aggression, unjust aggression against his country. He will fight, and the Iraqi people are very courageous. They will fight bravely and gladly. I think the Arab [words indistinct] is waiting for this coalition.

[McDonald] Can I ask you where Libya stands, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi? You did not join the Arab states in the 10 August Arab League resolution asking Saddam Husayn to leave the country, but you do not approve of his invading Kuwait. Where do you stand now?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I stand now with the Kuwaiti people and Iraqi people and Palestinian people, and with all the people in the world that are now carrying out demonstrations everywhere against the war. And, finally, I stand for peace and freedom for all peoples.

[McDonald] Would Libya support Iraq militarily?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] No. I think Iraq is not in any need for military aid from anyone. It has sufficient military capability.

[McDonald] There has been a call to bring the war to the West via terrorist actions. Would you support such a strategy?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] No. I am absolutely against any kind of terrorism. But we have this difference between terrorism and the just struggle for freedom and dignity and [word indistinct].

[McDonald] You have said, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, that you stand with the Kuwaiti and Iraqi people but that you will not fight. In what way will you support Saddam Husayn ?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I am against Saddam Husayn in Kuwait. But I am against this international coalition, this Western aggression against our people in Iraq, our innocent people. Today I led a demonstration: A million Libyan citizens, a million citizens took part in this demonstration against the war and this aggression and for self-determination for the Kuwaiti people.

[McDonald] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, can you imagine that Saddam Husayn's capability could be reduced to the point where he would surrender or withdraw from Kuwait ?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] It is expected, I think—within Kuwait, sure, but not further than this. In Iraq he will not surrender. He may be unable to keep Kuwait in the future, after this aggression.

McDonald then asks Admiral Martin what he thinks Saddam Husayn will do. Martin replies rhetorically: "What can he do?" and talks about the conduct of the war. McDonald then continues the interview with Al-Qadhdhafi as follows:

[McDonald] The admiral talks about occupation, about going into Kuwait with ground forces. He talks about coercion. If that happens, would you still stay on the sidelines?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] If they destroyed Kuwait, after that, if they remained in this area or continued their fight against Iraq, all Arabs will be with Iraq, absolutely.

[Admiral Martin] It would be interesting to know from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi what his capability would be in this conflict.

[McDonald] I think the Admiral means, would you fight?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I mean all Arab countries will support the Iraqi people in that case.

[McDonald] With force?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] With all means.

[McDonald] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, there is confusion tonight as to whether Israel will respond to Iraq's attack on civilian targets in Israel. Do you hope Israel will stay out of this conflict?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I think this action of war now is kind of foolish. It is not reasonable. Iraq does not mind if Israel adds its forces to this coalition. It means nothing. But not for the sake of the Israelis to enter to this [sentence as heard].

[McDonald] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, let me finally ask you this: Are you convinced Saddam Husayn cannot win any conflict?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I cannot expect his (?remaining) in Kuwait for a long time against this coalition. But he will bring heavy casualties on the coalition if he loses Kuwait.

[McDonald] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, thank you for joining us this evening.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Foreign Envoys

Nigerian President's Envoy 20 Jan

LD2001231691 Tripoli JANA in English 1613 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Tripoli, Ay Annar [January] 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution has received today Mr. Yousif Mitamafili, the personal envoy of the president of Nigeria Mr. Babangida.

Mr. Mitamafili relayed to the leader a message from Mr. Babangida.

Egyptian Envoy 21 Jan

LD2101212291 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] We have just received the following report: The brother leader of the revolution [al-Qadhdhafi] today received the Egyptian minister of information, Muhammad Safwat al-Sharif.

Morocco

Radio Carries Text of King's Message to Saddam

LD2001001991 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, God made victorious, has sent a message to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The following is the text of the message which was delivered by the minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, Mr. Abdellatif Filali, to the ambassador of the republic of Iraq, Mr. Fadil 'Abd al-Ghafur Shahir:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The sisterly Iraqi people and the entire Arab world are passing through difficult and historic circumstances following the outbreak of fighting in the Iraqi territories. On this occasion, the valiant Iraqi Army has shown bravery and steadfastness which deserve appreciation and respect, but, as the proverb goes: The great number can win over the brave.

We appeal to brother Saddam, as a commander who is protective of the lives of his sons, to provide the maximum opportunities for peace, because the Arab world is in need of all its leaders to restructure itself and begin its start toward the attainment of national and pan-Arab objectives.

If brother Saddam would agree, I would propose to the brothers in the greater Arab Maghreb to leave for the UN Security Council to issue from there an appeal to stop the war, to seperate the forces, and to send brotherly armies from the greater Arab Maghreb to replace the valiant Iraqi Army in Kuwait.

I beseech God that this initiative will be accepted by my dear brother, to whom I show all love and respect. If there is any suggestion that my dear brother deems it adequate to spare Arab bloodshed, it will have every attention from our side.

My God, help my dear brother and guide him toward the good of sister Iraq and the entire Arab nation. Peace be upon you and God's mercy and blessing.

This was the full text of the message sent by His Majesty King Hassan II to the Iraqi President Saddam Husayn

Bahrain

Prime Minister Telephones Kuwaiti Counterpart

NC2101192291 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1010 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Manama, 21 Jan (WAKH)—Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah received a telephoned call this morning from the fraternal Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah. The two officials exchanged views on recent events and developments in the region.

Kuwait

Iraqis Destroying Oil Wells, Storage Tanks

LD2201115891 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1111 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Iraq carried out its threats to set the Gulf ablaze today after Saddam Husayn's troops started destroying Kuwaiti oil wells and storage tanks. The destruction of oil facilities near Kuwait's border with Saudi Arabia followed Baghdad's often-uttered threats to set the Gulf ablaze if allied forces tried to force it out of the emirate. US military spokesmen said aerial reconnaissance photographs showed that oil wells and storage tanks had been blown up. "We do have evidence that Iraq is damaging or destroying some of these facilities," said a spokesman. Asked if Iraq was destroying oil wells and pipelines he said: "I don't have that kind of definition." Oil industry executives in touch with their Kuwaiti counterparts reported blazing oil product storage tanks at al-Shu'aybah and Mina 'Abd-Allah.

The move prompted immediate speculation that Iraq was starting a scorched-earth policy in preparation for a withdrawal from Kuwait. But it was also suggested that the Iraqis were preparing for an allied ground attack and wanted to ensure that invading troops could not use the fuel. Middle East expert Don Kerr said: "On the face of it, and of course it's unconfirmed, it would go for an indication that the Iraqis are making ready for a pull-out eventually. "That doesn't necessarily mean they plan to withdraw from Kuwait immediately," said Mr Kerr, of the Institute of International Strategic Studies in London. "If the evidence points in that direction at all what it's pointing to is preparations against the eventuality of having to pull out."

Minister Denounces Destruction

LD2201231491 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2230 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Al-Ta'if, 22 Jan (SPA)—Kuwait strongly denounces today the Iraqi regime's destruction of Kuwaiti oil installations.

Kuwait Information Minister Dr. Badr Jasim al-Ya'qub said: "This criminal act confirms the aggressive intentions and the deep-seated hatred harbored by the pillars of the Iraqi regime." He added: "The Iraqi regime's decision to attack Kuwaiti installations, civil institutions, and national resources is categorical proof of the Bahdad regime's desperation and a first step to its admission of defeat." He pointed out that Saddam's regime is trying to hinder the march of Kuwait following liberation, especially after its failure to suppress Kuwait and its people. He confirmed that the Kuwaiti people are capable, God willing, of building Kuwait and compensating for all the losses causes by the Iraqi regime inside the country as a result of Iraq's sinful aggression. [passage omitted]

Skyhawks Attack Iraqi Targets Inside Kuwait

LD2301102991 London KUNA in Arabic 0957 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Formerly Kuwait KUNA]

[Text] Dhahran, 23 Jan (KUNA)—Kuwaiti pilots this morning carried out air raids over the State of Kuwait, successfully destroyed Iraqi targets, and returned safely to their bases.

The Kuwaiti fighters carried out their missions in a formation of four Skyhawk aircraft at [figure indistinct] local time, and then, with the protection of God, returned at 0850 [0550 GMT] after successfully performing their missions.

Higher Advisory Body Meets, Issues Statement

LD2201235591 Riyadh Saudi Arabia Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Statement issued following the meeting of the second session of the Kuwaiti Higher Advisory Body in Jeddah on 22 January; from the "State of Kuwait television message"—read by announcer]

[Excerpts] 'Abd-al-Rahman Khalid al-Ghunaym, secretary general of the Kuwaiti Popular Conference, stated the following: The Higher Advisory Body [HAB], at the request of his highness the heir apparent, the prime minister, and HAB chairman, is in continuous session. As the agenda for this session's debate ended, the HAB held a series of meetings in Jeddah under the auspices and gracious hospitality of the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The meeting began on 7 January during which consultations were held and views exchanged on numerous questions regarding methods to liberate and rebuild the beloved homeland. The meeting also discussed ways of dealing with all the problems concerning the homeland and the citizens at this crucial period through which the Kuwaiti people are passing, as well as staying informed of the latest developments since the operations to liberate Kuwait from the treacherous Iraqi occupation began.

The debates and discussions were lucid, candid, and marked by a spirit of amity and fraternity, which confirms the participants' awareness and perception of the scope of their responsibility at this crucial stage and their eagerness to embody the responsible cooperation [words indistinct] and all that threatened its existence and interests.

During its meetings the HAB reviewed the steps taken to execute the recommendations of the Kuwaiti Popular Conference, which met in Jeddah in October. The recommendations are: [passage omitted]

Preparing Kuwaiti youth: The HAB discussed suitable ways of preparing our young men to participate in the honor of liberating the beloved homeland from its criminal occupation and exploiting the true spirit of citizenship and readiness to make sacrifices shown by our young men. In this way they can be worthy of earning this high honor by enlisting in military training courses or special technical courses for vocational work. These courses will meet the needs of the country during the first stage of the return to the homeland after its liberation, with God's help, from the usurpers. [passage omitted]

Planning for rebuilding: The HAB reviewed in much more detail the plans submitted by the ministries and various departments concerned with rebuilding the state's basic structure and providing basic services after the liberation of Kuwait from the tyrant Iraqi occupation, God willing.

It debated the suggestions on which these plans have been set up and the practical steps taken in this connection. It also discussed the stages of gradually implementing these plans and the means to implement them. Those who are in charge must realize the needs and requirements of implementing these plans and achieving their aims in the desired manner. [passage omitted]

Finance and investments: The HAB also debated measures concerning financial and investment policy, particularly ways to increase the activity and strengthen economic establishments abroad, supervising them and following up their work and developing their performance since the halt in our major source of state revenue: oil. These measures should protect and manage investment funds in the desired manner.

Following up political developments: The HAB reviewed the most prominent political developments concerning our just cause and the political efforts aimed at ending the criminal Iraqi occupation of the State of Kuwait at all regional, Arab, Islamic and international levels and at international institutions and organizations, and also the latest developments regarding the operations for liberating Kuwait. The HAB expressed its thanks and appreciation for the positive positions taken by fraternal and friendly states and their leaders and peoples and also their effective role in supporting and backing Kuwaiti rectitude.

The welfare of citizens and arrangements for their return to the homeland: The HAB reviewed the State's efforts in the welfare sector and provisions for providing health services to reduce the extent of their suffering during their current plight.

It discussed the bases and structures on which they are built and ways to develop them and bridge the gaps that emerged in order to strengthen the various efforts made by the organs concerned. In preparing for the return to the soil of the homeland after its liberation—with God's help—the HAB studied the plans that have been drawn up for the return of the citizens to Kuwait in a manner which meets security requirements and realizes their return in a systematic and organized method. [passage omitted]

As a result of its awareness of the grave situation and to follow up the latest political and military developments in the operations aimed at liberating Kuwait and because of the gallant and selfless actions by our young men in the Armed Forces to uphold right and defeat wrong and uphold the just will of the international community, and out of the belief of his highness the heir apparent and prime minister and chairman of HAB in what all this would require in the way of continuing the incessant work and the exchange of opinion with the brother members of the HAB, it has been decided to continue the meeting of the HAB so that it remains in a state of continuous session so that consultations on all the new developments may take place. [passage omitted]

Finance Minister Comments on Attack on Israel

PM2301111791 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 19 Jan 91 p 1

[Muna Shahin report: "Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah States: Kuwaiti Army, Air Forces Performing Their Role in Full"]

[Text] London—In an exclusive statement to SAWT AL-KUWAYT, Kuwaiti Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah emphasized that the Kuwaiti Army and Air Forces are performing their role in full within the joint forces and under a unified command. Concerning the war, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah pointed out that "the war option was not one we or world leaders wanted. We had hoped the dictator would respond to the voice of the international community; however, he left the world no option except war. The decision was not made happily, but as a necessity. From the operations it is clear there is an attempt to spare civilians and religious places, because the joint forces' conflict is not with the Iraqi people but with Iraq's dictator. We also want to underscore strongly the efforts being made to avoid all non-military targets. This proves that the joint forces do not want to destroy Iraq; their aim is confined to liberating Kuwait.

His excellency the minister added: "Our hearts are with the civilians in Kuwait, Iraq, and all areas, especially those exposed to Iraqi shelling. What has happened so far proves the Iraqi regime's brutality and its disregard even for the safety of its country."

On Saddam's attack on Israel, the minister said: Apart from the danger such an operation posed to Palestinian civilians,

I believe that the attack on Israel is designed primarily to divert attention from Iraq's occupation of Kuwait--something which Saddam has not succeeded in doing.

Oman

Sultan Receives Messages From Major, Gorbachev

NC2201203991 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1710 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Muscat, 22 Jan (WAKH)—His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman has received a message from British Prime Minister John Major on current developments in the Gulf.

His majesty received another message from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev that deals with recent Soviet efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Gulf conflict.

The OMAN NEWS AGENCY reported that the messages were delivered today by British Ambassador Terence Joseph [name and title as received] and Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Patsev during separate meetings with His Majesty Sultan Qabus.

Qatar

Amir Receives Letter From Gorbachev on Gulf War

NC2001135191 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1113 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Doha, 20 Jan (WAKH)—The amir of Qatar, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani, received a written message from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. The message was delivered by Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Ivanovich Vodyakhin in a meeting today with the amir.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY reports that the letter deals with intensive Soviet diplomatic efforts to end the Gulf war based on the UN Security Council resolutions providing for the unconditional and immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from the brotherly State of Kuwait and the reinstatement of the country's legitimate ruler, His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah.

Sends Message to Gorbachev

NC2301112891 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1055 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Doha, 23 Jan (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani, the amir of the State of Qatar, sent a message to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in response to the message he had received from the Soviet president.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY reports that the message, sent via diplomatic channels, deals with the ongoing Gulf war, as well as with international efforts to persuade Iraq to comply with international resolutions and declare its immediate and unconditional withdrawal from the State of Kuwait and the return of legitimacy there under His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait. This compliance would prevent the continued shedding of the blood of the Iraqi people and that of Arabs and Muslims.

Editorial Says Attack on Israel 'Tragic Comedy'

NC2301110991 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0925 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Manama, 23 Jan (WAKH)—[passage omitted] The Qatari newspaper AL-RAYAH has ridiculed the Iraqi president's insistence on dragging Israel into the war, thus creating a conflagration in the whole region in Saddam's effort to delude the naive into thinking he wants to liberate Palestine.

It an editorial today entitled "A Tragic Comedy," the paper says that Israel's involvement in the war would mean Palestine's irrevocable fall into Zionist captivity, because the world will take the Zionists' side if they practice self-restraint. It notes the U.S. haste to supply the Zionists with antiaircraft [as received] Patriot missiles to help them protect themselves.

The newspaper declares that by targeting residential areas in Israel, Saddam Husayn has revealed that his objective is not military; it has nothing to do with liberating and establishing the state of Palestine.

It goes on to say: Such stupid measures will prod the Zionist entity to strike at Iraq once again. Therefore, the scope of loss and destruction will increase at the expense of the Arab nation's future, in addition to igniting an Arab-Israeli war that could destroy the Arab force and obliterate forever the concept of holding an international conference and restoring the rights of the Palestinian people.

AL-RAYAH adds that Palestine cannot be liberated by being hit with missiles, as claimed by those who like slogans. As Saddam Husayn himself said, war cannot be decided by aircraft alone. History has never once recorded a battle, let alone a liberation battle, that has been decided by missiles.

The paper wonders why Iraqi missiles were not directed at Israeli military bases and airports. It affirmed that all this is a tragic comedy for which the Arab people are paying the price in blood and resources. The only possible outcome is for the fool of Baghdad to fall or to be convinced to withdraw from Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

Iraq Allegedly Attacks Positions Inside Border

LD2301104691 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] According to the latest reports received by the Central News Unit, units of the ground forces of Iraq today attacked the positions of the multinational forces

inside Saudi Arabian territory. The report stays that in the course of the fighting, Iraqi forces, may have captured a number of Saudi border posts.

This news item has not been previously reported by any other sources.

King, Ministers Discuss Latest Developments

LD190/190791 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, chaired an extraordinary session of the Council of Ministers this afternoon at the Yamamah Palace in Riyadh.

Following the session, His Excellency Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir told SPA: Within the framework of continually monitoring current events in the Arabian Gulf and to ascertain all the latest political and military developments, the council at the beginning of today's session and at the directive of the king listened to reports from the commanders of the Saudi Armed Forces participating in the military operations with the joint forces. The commanders gave details of the progress—as of noon today—of the military operations at the front and the missions that have been carried out to liberate Kuwait. At the end of the briefing the king—the supreme commander of the Saudi Armed Forces—expressed his heartfelt appreciation of the high national spirit shown by the commanders, officers, NCO's, and men of the Saudi Armed Forces in all areas and sectors. The king praised the round-the-clock efforts that have been made and are being made to defend the dear homeland and its vital foundations.

After that the custodian of the two holy mosques and the council members studied the situation and latest developments in the Arab region and outlined the Kingdom's positions, stressing the its rejection of all attempts to harm the soundness of its clear positions since the beginning of the evil Iraqi aggression on the State of Kuwait. He said: We have made every effort possible at all levels to avoid these critical circumstances which the Arab nation is undergoing today. God knows that we have knocked on every door for peace and proceeded along every path of brotherly dialogue and understanding. However, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, who rejected all the efforts and endeavors made by us and other sincere people—the leaders of the Arab and Islamic nations—alone shoulders the consequences of what is now taking place. The world has unanimously agreed on the necessity to implement Arab, Islamic, and international resolutions after defining the timetable as a last resort before using force to liberate Kuwait and restore legitimacy to Kuwait and the withdrawal of his forces massed along the border of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. But Saddam Husayn—as all know—defied the entire world and rejected international legitimacy, as well as all initiatives and appeals. He and he alone should today face the responsibility for his position before the people and army of Iraq.

In conclusion, the information minister said: At the end of the session, the custodian of the two holy mosques received brief reports from their highnesses and excellencies the ministers concerning internal affairs, each within his jurisdiction. He wished them all continued success in their duties. He also issued directives that the meetings of the Council of Ministers should be open-ended until further notice, God willing.

Crown Prince Telephones Syria's Al-Asad

LD2201152591 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1440 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Riyadh, 22 Jan (SPA)—The Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister and chief of the National Guard today contacted Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad by telephone.

SPA learned that during the conversation, they reviewed events and developments in the Arabian Gulf region in the light of difficult times the Arab region is experiencing because of Iraq's aggression against the State of Kuwait and the ensuing Kuwait liberation operations to implement Arab, Islamic, and international resolutions.

During the telephone call, President al-Asad was reassured and asked the crown prince to convey his greetings and best wishes for success to the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, and the honorable Saudi people.

French Defense Minister on Role in Gulf War

LD1901191591 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1815 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Riyadh, 19 Jan (SPA)—French Defense Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement has stressed that the goal of France's participation in the multinational forces is to liberate Kuwait. He said that everything will be done to achieve this goal.

In a press conference held today in Riyadh, he said: "We cannot reject any possible methods likely to secure the liberation of Kuwait."

He indicated that a naval phase will follow the curent concentrated air operations against Iraqi military targets inside Iraq and occupied Kuwait.

Military Spokesman Briefs Press on Scud Attack

LD2101225991 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2141 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Jan (SPA)—Staff Colonel Ahmad Muhammad al-Rubay'an, the spokesman of the joint forces, stressed that no damage was recorded in Riyadh apart from a crater in Riyadh's suburbs caused by the interception of four surface-to-surface Scud missiles launcned by the Iraqi aggressor.

He also confirmed that no one was injured and no incidents were recorded as a result of this attack. Staff

Colonel al-Rubay'an did not rule out that the cause of the crater could have resulted from the interception of Iraqi missiles by Patriot misisles. He said: "This could have happened when the Scud missiles were approaching the ground and were intercepted by Patriot missiles."

In a news conference held today in Riyadh, he indicated that the missiles launched at Riyadh by the Iraqi aggressor were intercepted only by Patriot missiles. He said: "No shots were fired to intercept Scud missiles over the Patriot missiles."

He indicated that the joint forces have attacked sites of the Iraqi missiles that were launched against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia yesterday. He said: "I have no details on the results of these attacks." He added: "As long as these missiles continue to be launched, it proves that the launchers are still intact because a missile cannot be fired without launchers."

Staff Colonel al-Rubay'an stated that military operations are being directed by the central forces composed of the commander of the joint forces, His Royal Highness Lieutenant General Khalid Bin-Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, and the commander of the U.S. forces, General Norman Schwarzkopf. At the end of his news conference, he said: "We are aware that this is war and that deaths and injuries must be expected in war."

Allied Forces Issue War Communique No. 5

LD2201191991 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Communique No. 5 of the Joint Command and Operations Theater read by Staff Colonel Ahmad Muhammad Rubay'an—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. If God grants you support, no one can defeat you. [Koranic verse]

Military Communique No. 5 issued by the Joint Command and Operations Theater on Tuesday, 22 January 1991, the sixth day of operations:

I want to make it clear that his royal highness the commander of the joint forces and the operations theater wishes to provide the maximum amount of information to the media. Concern for the security of operations, however, dictates the impossibility of providing all the information the media would like to obtain.

Among the most important things we would like to refer to today is that the pilots of the Saudi Air Force, since the beginning of the operations, have been carrying out their missions with great skill and extreme courage; they have played an important role in the success scored by the joint forces in the air campaign.

Among the most significant events of the last 24 hours are: The aggressor fired two Scud missiles at 0345 this morning toward Riyadh. One was destroyed over the city of Riyadh. As for the second, the search is still under way to obtain additional information about the possibility of its impact or falling debris after its destruction. The pieces found have been collected to complete the formal search and investigation.

On the same morning, the aggressor fired at least three Scud missiles at the eastern region. They were detected. One of them was destroyed and the other two were tracked until they impacted in an unpopulated area.

At 2200 last night, the aggressor fired a Scud missile toward the eastern region where it was detected and tracked until it fell into the Arabian Gulf.

No injuries or damage resulted from the firing of these missiles at Riyadh and the eastern region. All of them were carrying conventional warheads of limited destructive capability. Orders have been issued to the Air Force to destroy the launching facilities. Up to this point, the aggressor has achieved no worthwhile results from using Scud missiles.

The Royal Saudi Air Force has completed nearly 608 successful sorties within the 10,000 sorties of the allied air force. It is worth mentioning that the Qatari Air Force is participating for the first time in these sorties. Our forces lost no aircraft during the last 24 hours, and our pilots are actively participating in the successful strikes on the command and control centers, runways, military bases, missile sites, and ammunition depots.

During the last 24 hours, the joint naval force has destroyed three mines in the Arabian Gulf. Saudi launchers and artillery and allied air forces have silenced the aggressor's guns that were shelling border positions. Aerial photographs show that the aggressor has detonated some oil wells and fuel tanks in Kuwait.

INA Alleges Saudi Defections to Yemen, Jordan

NC2201203591 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1925 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY [INA] has learned that 25,000 Saudis, including key figures, have sought refuge in Yemen in light of the political circumstances and developments and Fahd's treasonous position toward Iraq and the Arab nation. INA has also learned that large numbers of Saudis, especially bedouins, have sought refuge in Jordan. Those crossing into Jordan included 55 officers of various ranks.

'Responsible Source' Denies Report

LD2201234891 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2252 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Riyadh 22 Jan (SPA)—A responsible source has made the following statement to SPA today: We have read, within the context of the series of lies and hatred being voiced by the trumpets of the Iraqi aggressor Saddam Husayn, the report published by his news agency to the effect that thousands of Saudis have sought shelter in Jordan and Yemen because of what it calls

"political circumstances and developments." The source said that "this report, which is a complete fabricated, give rise to more pity and ridicule rather than attention."

'Clash' Among Multinational Troops in Dhahran

LD2201193491 Tehran IRNA in English 1834 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 22, IRNA—Cracks appeared in the multi-national force assembled in Saudi Arabia, when some 100 soldiers [were] killed and several others wounded during a clash around Dhahran, between American troops and armies of Muslim countries, informed sources disclosed today.

The clash broke out when American troops in the area cold-bloodedly shot to death six soldiers of Muslim states, said the sources.

They noted that tension is rising between the multinational forces that may eventually flare up into infighting in the heterogenous forces.

In related news, the local people of Qatif, in the eastern part of the Arabian Peninsula, close to the war zone, heavily clashed with the Saudi security and military forces over the past few days. However, no precise information is yet available on the possible casualties.

The oil-rich Persian Gulf region of the Arabian Peninsula was forcibly annexed by 'Abd-al-'Aziz-Ibn-Sa'ud in the 1930s. Like the nearby island of Bahrain, the local Arabs follow the Shi'ite school and have deep grievances against the Wahhabi regime.

United Arab Emirates

President Zayid Receives Gorbachev's Message

NC1901174591 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1725 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Jan (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], received a message from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on developments in the region.

The message was delivered today to Shaykh Hamdan Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan during his meeting with Konstantin Kharchev, Soviet ambassador to the UAE.

Turkey's Ozal Sends Message to President Zayid

NC2201164291 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0850 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Jan (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], received an oral message from Turkish President Turgut Ozal on current events and developments in the Gulf region.

Ugurtan Akinci, Turkish ambassador to the UAE, delivered the message during a meeting this morning with Shaykh Zayid.

'Responsible Source' on Support for Resolutions

NC1901133091 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Jan (WAKH)—The United Arab Emirates [UAE] has emphasized its full support for the steps taken to implement the resolutions to liberate Kuwait following the failure of all the efforts and endeavors exerted since the Iraqi invasion of the State of Kuwait before the expiration of the deadline set by the UN resolutions.

In a statement today, a responsible source at the UAE Foreign Ministry said the joint forces, which launched the operation to liberate Kuwait on 17 January, are working within the framework of Arab, Islamic, and UN resolutions which all call for the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the return of legitimacy under the leadership of the Kuwaiti amir, His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

U.S. Citibank Office Evacuated After Bomb Scare

NC1901150591 Paris AFP in English 1452 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Dubayy, Jan 19 (AFP)—A U.S. bank was evacuated here Saturday after an anonymous caller claimed a bomb was inside it, police said.

Sniffer dogs were brought in to search the headquarters of Citibank, a unit of the New York-based Citicorp. Surrounding streets were cordoned off but later lifted as nothing was found.

Police in the United Arab Emirates, of which Dubayy is a member, have been on alert for possible terrorist attacks since war broke out on Thursday.

In Abu Dhabi, another emirate, the U.S Embassy warned Americans to use extreme caution because of Iraqi threats, but it denied ordering American citizens to return home.

Paper Criticizes Protestors' 'Peace Slogans'

NC2101204491 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Manama, Jan 21 (WAKH)—Stressing that the peace door is still open before Iraq, a UAE [United Arab Emirates] daily said today "Nobody on earth is not delighted to hear the voice of peace, and nobody, whatever barbarous, is pleased to hear the drums of war, the moans of the bereaved or to see the tears of orphans and widows."

The Dubayy-based 'AL-BAYAN' added that in wartimes "It is not strange to see active peace calls supported by thousands of staunch demonstrators in various world cities chanting No for Bloodshed and No for Fighting."

What [is] strange however, the paper added, are those zealous instigators of war who are currently raising their peace slogans.

"If they are really eager to bring peace, they themselves know how easy its path is. It is the same path which was open even before the second round of liberation war. [sentence as received]

Pointed [as received] out that nothing is easier for a usurper than giving up a usurped land, the paper urged Iraq to leave Kuwait and pull out its soldiers from a neighboring country.

AL-BAYAN noted that the peace wanted by those people is a kind of succumbing to the logic of aggression and usurpation.

"It was better for those shedding now the crocodile's tears to direct their calls to the aggressor who started the war and who was the first to crush peace under the feet of his invading forces."

"Peace door is still open. It is the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait," it concluded. [passage omitted]

Yemen

Council Decries 'Barbarous' Acts Against Iraq

EA2201172091 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Statement issued by the Presidential Council on 21 January; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] This morning, the Presidential Council held its regular meeting under the chairmanship of Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, to consider the tragic developments in the region as a result of the brutal aggression against the fraternal Iraqi people. The council issued the following statement:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Presidential Council of Yemen has been following with great anguish the painful developments of the continuing barbarous aggression pursued by the U.S. forces and their allies against the fraternal Iraqi people and their resources, as well as their scientific, industrial, economic, and military installations, as revealed by the hostile and premeditated plan against the fraternal Arab and Muslim people.

The Presidential Council believes that the barbarous aggression of U.S. forces and their allies is not to implement UN Security Council resolutions and liberate Kuwait, which will always remain an Arab-Arab problem that only Arabs can resolve because Kuwait is part of the Arab-Muslim nation and the people of Kuwait are our brothers in Arabism and Islam.

In reality, the matter has gone beyond that: Thse forces want to destroy the resources and capabilities of an Arab-Muslim country and annihilate its people. This is seen in the hostile operations launched against civilians and civilian installations and against the infrastructure and development structures of fraternal Iraq continue. This reveals the dimensions of the dangerous plot that targets not just the fraternal country of Iraq, but also the entire Arab-Mulsim action in order to exercise hegemony over its interests and resources and endanger its security, independence, and sovereignty.

The Presidential Council, in condemning this barbarous aggression against fraternal Iraq, appeals to all states of the world and above all to fraternal Arab and Muslim countries to adopt one position—dictated by their patriotic, religious, and humanitarian duty—on the brutal aggression to which a fraternal Arab and Muslim people are being subjected.

It appeals to the international community to pressure the United States and its allies to stop this aggression immediately and parovide an opportunity for a peaceful dialogue to resolve all the problems; ensure the achievement of a durable, comprehensive, and just peace in the region; and guarantee peaceful coexistence between its peoples, free from any foreign intervention or military escalation that will draw the entire region into a destructive conflict and a shocking catastrophe that will be difficult to control or predict.

On the basis of the firm and principled position of the Yemeni Republic and the efforts it has made since the beginning of the crisis to find a peaceful solution, contain it within the Arab framework, and avoid the catastrophe of war and destruction in the region, the Presidential Council reaffirms its efforts to stop the bloodshed and achieve comprehensive peace in the region. In these critical moments and during this extremely grave situation that the region and the world are experiencing, the Presidential Council calls for the following:

1. a UN Security Council resolution to stop all military actions with immediate effect;
2. giving an opportunity to Arab and Islamic efforts and mediation to end the causes behind the dispute between Iraq and Kuwait;
3. a UN Security Council resolution calling for the withdrawal of foreign forces from the region;
4. that the UN Security Council confirms its commitment to implement the UN resolutions relating to the Arab-Israeli conflict with immediate effect and without any postponement;
5. a UN Security Council resolution canceling its Resolution 661 relating to imposing a comprehensive blockade against Iraq;
6. reaching a comprehensive agreement for removing weapons of mass destruction owned by any state in the region and establishing a strict rule to ensure commitment to that agreement after all forms of dispute in the region, particularly the Arab-Israeli conflict, have ended.

The Presidential Council, as it appeals to the sons of the Arab and Muslim nation, their leaders, and their citizens to assume their historic responsibilities regarding this challenge facing the Arab and Muslim nation and to stop this aggression against a fraternal Arab-Muslim country, wishes to stress that its only motivation in all this is to stop the bloodshed and to preserve the resources and potential of the nation and save it from the claws of the foes and of those who covet its wealth.

UN Envoy on Efforts To Establish Cease-Fire

NC2101203491 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1910 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Telephone interview with 'Abdallah al-Ashtal, permanent representative to the United Nations and president of the UN Security Council, by Suhayl Khuri; date not given]

[Text] [Khuri] Mr. al-Ashtal, are there contacts, consultations, or efforts under way at the UN Security Council to tackle the serious situation in the Gulf and stop the fighting there?

[Al-Ashtal] There are initiatives and contacts, particularly by the Maghreb states and especially Algeria. The Algerian delegate met with the members of the Nonaligned Movement at the Security Council over the weekend and asked the council members to do something to stop the hostilities. Also, the Indian delegation has some ideas for a draft resolution calling for a cease-fire. Until this moment, however, there has been no opportunity for the Security Council to meet to pass such a resolution. We are waiting for further consultations within this framework. It is not likely that the Security Council will pass such a resolution within the next few days.

[Khuri] Mr. al-Ashtal, how do UN quarters view the Gulf war?

[Al-Ashtal] It is clear that the countries and the public are gravely concerned about the exacerbation of the crisis, about increasing losses, and also about the expansion of the war. A large number of delegations have strong reservations about the way these battles are being handled, particularly considering that they went beyond the provisions of the Security Council resolution which calls for the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait, as this war is being fought in all of Iraq. Areas deep inside Iraqi territory are being targeted in this confrontation. Furthermore, the scope of the destruction and the magnitude of the air bombardment as well as its expansion have caused grave concern among UN quarters. Regrettably, nothing can be done, however, within the framework of the Security Council now because the United States can use its veto in the event a draft resolution calling for a cease-fire is submitted. There are attempts to submit a draft resolution providing for the establishment of a cease-fire and for linking such a cease-fire to an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. I do not think that such opinions are acceptable right now, because what is required is a cease-fire and the initiation of negotiations to resolve this crisis comprehensively.

[Khuri] Thank you, Mr. 'Abdallah al-Ashtal, permanent representative to the United Nations.

[Al-Ashtal] Thank you. Greetings.

Tehran TV Reports 2 U.S. Pilots on Baghdad TV

LD2201171191 Tehran IRIB Television Network in Persian 1600 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Baghdad's radio and television broadcast some of the interview they have conducted with two captured American pilots last night and today. According to a report by the Central News Unit from Ilam, in the course of this interview the pilot, Captain [rank as received] Jeffrey Tice, 35 years old, said that he was flying an F-16 which took off from Doha Airbase in Qatar. This captured U.S. pilot said that his mission was to bomb the al-Dawrah oil refinery near Baghdad and his plane was downed by a surface-to-air missile.

The next captured pilot introduced himself as Captain Henry Michael [Roberts—name incomplete as received]. He repeated what the other U.S. pilot said and added that his plane was downed before reaching the target.

It seems that these two pilots were flying the same plane.

Baghdad TV Shows Wrecks of 'Hostile Air Targets'

NC2201180791 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1755 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jan (INA)—Baghdad television tonight showed the wreckage of a number of hostile air targets shot down by Iraqi air defenses.

The film showed a number of hostile planes and rockets blown by the wind and scattered over our chaste land.

Spokesman on Application of Geneva Conventions

NC2201212991 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2035 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jan (INA)—An Iraqi presidential spokesman has stressed that the great showdown between the center of pioneers of struggle in Iraq and the center of atheism, hypocrisy, and injustice has exposed certain traits and aspects that would not have been exposed if the mother of all battles had not broken out.

In a statement this evening, the spokesman said that imperialist ambitions and Zionist intrigues have played a wicked role in the disgusting duplicity in attitude and behavior.

The spokesman added that the politicians in the West consider their citizens to be of a higher caliber than any other citizen, regardless of what he has to offer in terms of human values and ideology, especially if such a citizen is an Arab or a Muslim.

The spokesman noted that on the basis of this theory and distinction, the West rejected the 12 August initiative, considering that the Palestinian people were not worth their oil interests. It also imposed an unjust blockade on Iraq.

The spokesman explained that the military aggression on Iraq then occurred and the military showdown began. Our Air Defense Forces crushed the myth of their technological superiority. Their planes began to fall like ravens on the ground. A military spokesman declared that the pilots of these planes would be placed at military targets. The Western politicians became furious and suddenly remembered the Geneva Conventions which they had buried and failed to apply in the case of the Palestinian people since 1948 and which they ridiculed and ignored in the case of all Arab prisoners.

The spokesman related how the United States and the West hold in contempt the souls of the Iraqi people and the souls of their own citizens whom they send to launch aggression on Iraq. The spokesman said: They have at last remembered international law, international legitimacy, and the Geneva agreement. The spokesman asserted that Iraq's memory is better than theirs when it comes to implementing these agreements in a just and fair manner and on the basis of a single standard.

The presidential spokesman stated that Iraq is prepared to deal with the POW's on the basis of the Geneva agreements provided this is also applied to the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and the Palestinian Arab and non-Arab mujahidin who fell prisoner while fighting for the sake of Palestine and its people, as well as the Iraqis and all the strugglers who are taken prisoner in the mother of battles. Failing that, we will be under no obligation.

Communique Says More U.S. Pilots Captured

NC2201181991 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Communique No. 15 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Our great people are forging ahead, breaking the fangs of American imperialism and stripping it of the arrogance and conceit with which it has ruled the people of the world for over a century. If this world is to be freed from injustice and evil and to live with justice and lasting peace, the Iraqi people are destined to gain the honor of being at the forefront in this effort as they shoulder their historic responsibility with ability, determination, courage, and patience against barbarism.

O our brothers in God, homeland, principles, and struggle; the United States has used all its means of destruction, hoping that it can twist your arms, demolish what you have built, or once again deprive you of the land that you restored after the enemy had ruled it and pillaged its wealth for decades. However, you are there, giving irrefutable, concrete proof that when the people are prepared, encouraged, and proven as masters of their own will, and when they hand the reigns to the worthiest of their sons, the spirit and fire of struggle will be capable of breaking the iron (?vultures), no matter how sophisticated they are.

Brothers, following is an account of the enemy's aggression and the devastating response of your sons:

First, the American-Zionist enemy resumed its aggression with missiles and aircraft in the following manner:

At 1130, the enemy fired a missile against the city of Baghdad. At 1154, the enemy fired one of its missiles from the Arabian Gulf across our eastern borders in the direction of district of Mandali. At 1315 today, enemy aircraft raided al-Anbar governorate. At 1505, hostile aircraft bombarded al-Qa'im district in al-Anbar Governorate. At 1508, the enemy bombarded civilian quarters in the city of Tikrit. At 1621, the enemy raided Qasabat 'Ar'ar in al-Anbar Governorate.

Second, the brave soldiers of our missile forces and air and ground defenses are heroically continuing to repel the barbaric American raids. With God's help, five air targets, planes and missiles, were downed. Victory will always be recorded for civilized Iraq.

Third, another number of barbaric American pilots have been taken prisoner and the dead bodies of another number of Americans have been discovered.

Fourth, the American and NATO forces and the forces of their agents in the Third World and their slaves in the Arab homeland have monitored one of our front positions manned by three soldiers. The bunch of atheists sent tanks, supported by NATO fighter and [word indistinct] planes, which tried to approach, hesitantly. If this is their reaction to three border guards, how much force does Mr. Bush need to confront the great Army of Iraq when the time of final reckoning comes? It will be a hard job for the cowards.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command

[Dated] 5 Rajab 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 22 January 1991.

Communique Acknowledges Strike on Israel

NC2301065091 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0542 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Communique No. 16 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 Jan]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. God is great. God is the greatest of them all. God is the strongest of them all. With God's (?might) we hit, on Him we rely, to Him we shall return, in His faith we believe, and on His enemies, the enemies of His religion, and the enemies of the people who have managed to convey the heavenly messages, we spew the lava of right to rain on their heads and on their home ground, to prove to them that we shall remain the strongest and the ones who will last longer in the duel, the mightiest in the fight for justice and (?safety), and the ones who deserve God's victory the most, God Almighty willing.

Let the Government of the United States, its allies, and the motley agents who are cowardly and treacherously applauding it, experience this. The following is a summary of our activities and those of the enemy:

1. At 2015 on the [word indistinct] on the day before yesterday, our missiles rocked the Saudi city of Jubayl, striking and destroying their targets.

2. At 0045 on the day before yesterday, our missiles rained on the city of Riyadh, the capital of the agents of Al Sa'ud, to teach them a lesson in good conduct.

3. At 0700 yesterday morning, our missiles hit the city of Dhahran and its base, which is the center of slavery and one of its symbols, thus making America and its cliques hear Iraq's high- sounding voice.

4. Also at 0700 yesterday morning, our missiles were fired to torch and destroy their targets in Baqiq Saudi oil complex.

5. For the sake of Palestine, and in implementation of the will of the heroes of the childrens of the stones, its strugglers, and its [word indistinct] and struggling women; for the sake of holy Jerusalem; and in revenge for the crimes of Zionism, our missiles slammed against the city of Tel Aviv, the city of vice and usurpation, to disturb the sleep of the Zionists and blacken their night, after they distorted the days of the Arabs and filled them with blood and peril, at 2115 last night. Our missile launchers then withdrew safely. O glory to you, men of our heroic missile force, and rejoice, you sons of Arabism and advocates of the Arab right in Palestine wherever you are. O our great leader, the leader of the faithful assembly, great Saddam Husayn [words indistinct].

6. The American-Zionist enemy has continued its attacks on our people through air and missile raids as follows:

At 0645, the enemy pounded some civilian areas in the city of Tikrit in Salah al-Din Governorate.

At 1925 last night, the enemy launched a raid on the city of Baghdad.

At 0810, the enemy launched a raid on al-Anbar Governorate.

At 0825, the enemy launched a raid on the city of al-Nasiriyah in Dhi Qar Province.

At 0850, the enemy launched a raid on the city of Baghdad.

at 0905, the enemy attacked with rockets the city of Tikrit in Salah al-Din Governorate. At 0950, the enemy launched a raid on the city of Baghdad. At the same time, the enemy launched several raids on al-Anbar Governorate.

At 2200 last night, the enemy launched a raid on the city of al-Nasiriyah in Dhi Qar Governorate.

7. The courageous men in our missile and air and ground defense force have continued to heroically confront the barbarian aggressors. With the help of God, these men shot down four air targets—missiles and planes—whose downing has been ascertained at the time this communique was prepared.

We will inform you of the enemy losses as soon as we ascertain them.

Our great people, our valiant Armed Forces: The signs of victory over the aggressors have manifested themselves. Forward, and God is with you.

[Signed] the Armed Forces General Command.

[Date] 6 Rajab [Hegira], corresponding to 23 January.

Allied Ground Offensive Said 'Forced To Retreat'

LD2201214991 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Iraq has announced that an attack by the ground forces of the multinational forces, under the American command, on the Kuwaiti front has met with defeat and those forces have had to retreat.

According to a report by the Central News Unit in Sanandaj, Sawt-al Jamahir Radio, quoting an Iraqi military spokesperson, announced at 2300 on Tuesday night that the ground forces of multinational armies led by America, which were trying to capture the forward frontlines of the Iraqi forces in Kuwait, were forced to retreat under intense fire by artillery and helicopter gunships.

Spokesman Calls Allies' Leaders 'War Criminals'

NC2301123691 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1141 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated the following:

At a time when the criminal forces of U.S., NATO, and Zionist forces are continuing their treacherous war against Iraq and its steadfast people, the tyrant aggressors are reiterating their desire to abide by international humanitarian laws, particularly the Geneva conventions, and claiming that they are respecting these conventions.

Iraq and its proud and steadfast people are being subjected to a barbaric aggression in which the criminal aggressors are not abiding by any legal, moral, or humanitarian rules. It is very clear that the criminal attacks waged by the U.S. aggressors and their British, French, Zionist, and other allies are criminal and vengeful acts. Their aim is to sap the will of the heroic Iraqi people by killing their sons and destroying their civilian, scientific, and cultural possessions.

According to the U.S. criminals and their allies, the hostile air raids since the start of the aggression up to now number 8,500 sorties. They have intentionally shelled civilian targets, civilian factories, food and medicine warehouses, religious sites—including mosques and churches—and houses. A number of civilians, women, children, and old people, have been killed in these raids, which also included cities and villages all over Iraq.

The criminals such as Bush, Major, Mitterrand, and others who have insisted on these premeditated raids are war criminals and killers because they intentionally ordered their forces to kill the Iraqis and destroy their possessions. These criminals with their historic black record have no right to speak about values, laws, and norms. Anyone demanding respect for and implementation of the clauses of international humanitarian laws must first respect them and abide by them himself before seeking to hide behind them and demand that they be used in the interest of his aggressive military campaign, at a time when he is committing ugly crimes against steadfast Iraq and its proud people.

'Aziz Sends Message to Turkish Counterpart

NC2301155991 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1510 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has sent a message to Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Alptemocin.

Your Excellency: It has become evident to us and the world that U.S. military aircrait have used the Turkish base of Incirlik to raid targets within the Iraqi borders. Thus, Turkish territory has been used with the approval of the Turkish Government to commit aggression against Iraq, which is a friendly country of Turkey. You know the consequences that may result from this behavior. This aggressive action that your government has permitted against our country and people is added to the deliberate offenses that your government committed previously against Iraq when it cut off the Iraqi oil pipeline and blocked foodstuffs owned by Iraq for unwarranted reasons.

It is the duty of your government to understand that Iraq is a neighborly country of Turkey and that its relations with your country have been characterized by bonds of common religion, good neighborliness, and common interests for a long period of time. The peoples of both countries have always harbored and still harbor for each other the deepest feelings of friendship and amity.

It is really shameful that your government has denied this, disavowed the relations of neighborliness, and committed this act—which is unprecedented in the relations between the two countries—out of submission to the United States which is launching a treacherous aggressive campaign against Iraq and its people. This subservience to America, in which, regrettably, President Turgut Ozal is involved, has embroiled neighboring Turkey by putting it at odds with the heritage of relations and the characteristics of good-neighborliness between the Iraqi and Turkish peoples.

This blatant fact has become very well known to Turkish public opinion above all. Undoubtedly, public opinion fully understands that the Government and people of Iraq have never harmed the state and people of Turkey. The Turkish people are also very well aware of the fact that Iraq has always supported its neighbor Turkey in hard times. It is regrettable that your government so quickly disavows the fact that neighborliness between Iraq and Turkey is immortal and irrevocable, that the political system in Iraq will continue, and that, with

God's help, Iraq will attain victory over the American-Zionist-Atlantic aggression and the forces of evil and tyranny with which your government has allied itself without heeding the common history of the two peoples and countries and the future of their relations.

We have no doubt whatsoever that your government's disgraceful and aggressive position will be strongly denounced by the (?Turkish) people and the Turkish forces that believe in the need to respect the firm bonds and relations of friendship and good neighborliness that the two peoples and countries have long maintained. Your government, Mr. Minister, is held fully responsible for this unjustified aggressive conduct against Iraq.

[Signed] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Iraqi Republic

[Dated] Baghdad, 4 Rajab 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 21 January 1991

Forces Said Planning To Down AWACS, Tankers

LD2301092791 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 0859 GMT 23 Jan 91

[By David Mason, PRESS ASSOCIATION, in Riyadh]

[Text] Iraqi pilots are practising to shoot down tanker and AWACS early warning aircraft crucial to allied attacks, according to intelligence reports. It is feared that President Saddam Husayn is holding back his air force for a strike on the unarmed tankers, which allow bombers to penetrate deep into Iraq, and on the AWACS planes which warn of enemy attacks and coordinate allied movements.

Flight Lieutenant Keith Hewitt, 40, a British VC-10 tanker captain, and mission commander, said: "We know from intelligence his fighters have been practising simulated shootdowns on his own civilian airliners." He was speaking during the first airborne combat mission any journalists have been allowed to go on since the war started. "At the moment we haven't taken out as many of his fighters as we would like," he said. "He's got to be saving for something. He might decide in a rush he is going to take out some high-value allied air targets, the AWACS and the tankers."

Allied tankers rendezvous with bombers close to the Iraqi border, allowing them to fill their tanks for maximum range and manoeuvrability on strikes deep into Iraq. To extend range even further tankers wait to let planes returning from raids refuel to give themselves a safe margin to reach their bases. Britain's 101 Squadron of VC-10's, based at Riyadh, services RAF [Royal Air Force] Tornado GR1 figher-bombers leading the attacks on Iraqi airfields, and sometimes waits on post only a few dozen miles south of the border - minutes flying time for an Iraqi MiG-29 fighter. Each VC-10 will refuel a flight of Tornados, and the loss of even one tanker would be a considerable setback.

American AWACS - Airborne Early Warning and Control Systems - planes monitor three sectors of air space, co-ordinating the movements of up to 2,000 aircraft at any one time, and providing early warning of enemy attacks. They are defended by allied fighters flying combet patrols along the length of the border, and to date Iraqi fighters probing the defences have fled north as soon as they are engaged. Allied spokesmen say any Iraqis that do engage in combet are shot down - 17 to date. But Flt Lt Hewitt said the tanker captain's nightmare was that an enemy fighter might slip past the defences. "There's absolutely nothing you can do in it, apart from trying to evade in what is an airplane designed to carry people around drinking gin and tonic. "The sort of G-loads and manoeuvres we can do are fairly limited," he said.

Most tankers are civilian airliners converted to carry extra fuel. Britain uses VC-10s and Tristars, American and French KC-135s are converted Boeing 707s, and the American KC-10 is a converted DC-10. They rely on AWACS warnings of enemy moves, and their main defensive strategy is to turn and flee, forcing the enemy to come deeper and deeper into allied air space. Flt Lt Hewitt said: "Our plan is to run away as early as we can as far as we can. That's sucking him (the enemy fighter) deeper into our territory. "He's not going to go on following unless he's really intent on us. He knows there are a lot of other fighters around."

'Intensive Air Raids' on Basra Reported

LD2201165191 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1557 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Aircraft of the joint forces launched intensive air raids on the Iraqi town of Basra last night and this morning. Basra, where the command centres of the operations carried out by the Iraqi regime in occupied Kuwait are located, and which also has a [word indistinct] status for the Iraqi regime, is regarded as a target for raids by the joint forces. [passage omitted]

Basra 'Caught by Surprise'

LD2301093391 Tehran IRNA in English 0722 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan prov., Jan. 23, IRNA—In continuation of air raids by the U.S.-led western forces against Iraq, the port city of Basra was heavily bombarded at 9:45 and 9:57 local time (06:15, 06:27 GMT) Wednesday.

The explosions were clearly heard in the port city of Khorramshahr 40 kms southeast of Basra, in this southern province.

The Iraqi anti-aircraft fire could be heard in the second air raid but it is not yet known if any plane was shot down, meaning that apparently Iraqis were caught by surprise in the first raid.

Citizens Receive Instructions in Civil Defense

NC2301082091 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0720 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Unscheduled Civil Defense Directorate announcement]

[Text] The Civil Defense Directorate, while expressing its great appreciation for the high morale shown by the citizens during the brutal aggressive raids being launched by the U.S.-Zionist alliance against our dear homeland, as evidenced by their indifference to the raids and their interest in watching the planes being shot down by our air and missile defenses—a reaction which is in line with the spirit of heroism of the great Iraqi people and in emphasis of their determination to stand fast and inflict defeat on the aggressors—appeals to all citizens to observe the civil defense instructions during the raids and urges them not to go onto the roofs or balconies of their homes to watch these raids. Instead, citizens should head for the various public and private shelters which were prepared for this purpose to ensure their safety and well-being.

The Civil Defense Directorate is certain that the couragous Iraqis, in their heroic stand behind their great leader struggler Saddam Husayn to repulse the U.S., Zionist, and imperialist onslaught, will comply with the instructions of the Civil Defense and benefit from the shelters prepared to keep them safe in such circumstances.

Military Allegedly Defuses, Reuses Allies' Bombs

NC2301153491 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1425 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Baghadad, 23 Jan (INA)—Our brave fighters have succeeded in defusing 400 of the aggressors' bombs and missiles. This remark was made by the staff major general in charge of the military engineering corps in a statement published by AL-JUMHURIYAH. He said that many of the missiles were later used in operations against the imperialist aggression.

The military engineering corps director emphasized that the U.S. enemy's advanced technology is unable to settle [hasm] the battle with a country like Iraq, which possesses advanced military capabilities and which has strong faith in the justice of the cause for which it is fighting under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn.

'Temporary' Halt in Sale of Gas, Oil Announced

NC2301101591 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0952 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Announcement by the Iraqi Ministry of Transport and Communications]

[Text] Concerning the supply of fuel oil, gasoline, and liquid gas to our dear citizens and all the state departments, it has been decided to stop the sale of these substances at all filling stations in the country as of 23 January 1991. This will be a temporary measure pending the issuance of further instructions. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated, since it is in the service of our dear country.

6,000 Iraqi Prisoners, Deserters Reportedly Escape

PM2301090991 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 20 Jan 91 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Do You Know?"]

[Text] Do you know that 6,000 Iraqi prisoners, most of whom are Army deserters facing the death sentence, escaped from the Abu Gharib prison when bombardment of the main arms stores seven miles from the prison destroyed the gates and some parts [of the prison], thereby enabling many prisoners, and also guards, to escape.

U.S., Western 'Miscalculations' on War Viewed

NC2301115791 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Anyone hearing the current statements of U.S. and European officials would be puzzled, if not totally bewildered, by their admissions concerning their miscalculations regarding the aggressive war which they imposed on Iraq, and the difficulty of their task. These officials are making obvious attempts to prepare public opinion in Europe and America to receive bad news from the front. What is curious about these admissions and attempts is that they come in the wake of the boasting and false claims made in the early hours of their aggression, which turned out to be just dreams and wishful thinking.

It is not hard for any observer to detect signs of Iraqi victory in the first round of the war in UK Prime Minister John Major's admission that the task is difficult; in Bush's concern about his allies in Tel Aviv; in Mitterrand's shock and loss of nerve over the [word indistinct] of their aggression; and the terror of pro-American Arabs over what the Iraqi missiles have been and will keep doing to them, despite all attempts by the U.S. Administration and its allies to black out the facts concerning the course of the war and conceal the failure they have met with, the great human and material losses they have suffered, and, despite their recent escalation of the psychological war against Iraq, their attempt to conceal the true reports, their fabrication of news, and their dissemination of false information.

It could not have been easy for the UK prime minister to assert in the House of Commons that the war will not be a short one, to ask the British public to expect bad news from the front, and to admit that no one should take lightly the difficulty of the task faced by their forces.

Even Bush expressed his frustration and concern over the Iraqi missiles pounding Tel Aviv, Haifa, and other targets in the Zionist entity.

Nothing could be as disappointing to Mitterrand as the criticism by French public of his policy in the Gulf region and his adherence to the U.S. line.

The valiant Iraqi people have held fast and neutralized the aggression of Bush, Major, Mitterrand, and Shamir. The Iraqis have proved them to have miscalculated, unsettled them, and have shaken their image of composure which they need to project to their governments and peoples.

When a senior officer of the U.S. Air Force admits that the planes of the anti-Iraqi alliance have waged over 8,000 raids since hostilities broke out without putting Iraq's main military targets out of commission, particularly the missile sites, such a U.S. admission [break in transmission for 30 seconds]

Bush has involved himself in an aggression against Iraq and fallen victim to the evil of his action, as he imagined that Iraq was an easy morsel that could be swallowed before the sunrise of 17 January. He also imagined that the aggression against Iraq would not differ much from the Panama operation. Now, six days after the beginning of the war, the zealous Iraqis have shattered Bush's illusions, frustrated his hopes, and forced him to acknowledge his miscalculations. The Iraqis have also forced the commander of Bush's forces in the region to say that this war is not a Panama operation. Bush and the commander of his forces, Schwarzkopf, realizes that the continuation of battles means more human and material losses among U.S. forces. It also means more coffins will received by the Americans from Bush's war and that U.S. voices opposing the aggression and demanding the unseating of Bush will become louder.

Because Bush's calculations in his house were not in conformity with his calculations in the field, and because the aggressive U.S. forces are suffering increasing human and material losses with the passage of time, the U.S. Administration apparatuses and propaganda machine, regardless of their dexterity, will not be able to hide from U.S. public opinion for long the bitter harvest of the brutal aggression led by Bush against Iraq. The American people will soon realize that Bush tried to deceive them and hide facts from them, and that he is leading them to a losing and very costly military mischief—in human, military, and political terms.

Therefore, THE NEW YORK TIMES, the American widely-circulated newspaper, began as of yesterday to demand that the U.S. Administration not obscure the facts regarding the developments of the war. The paper attributes the failure of the military operations that have been mounted against Iraq to the administration's intransigence.

The glorious Iraqis have done all this and other things to Bush, his small agents, and his Arab servants affiliated with America within less than a week. This is although the ground battles have not yet begun [as heard]. If the U.S. and Zionist aggressors have failed in the aerial operations on which they relied and wagered on their results, how, then, will the case be when ground battles are launched? What will await them? They have so far been reluctant to move one step forward, and they are aware of the type of fighters awaiting them at the fortified Iraqi defensive positions.

God bless you, O Iraqis, O real men. What have you done to Bush and his big and small helpers? You have already taught them a hard lesson, and made them understand that they must no longer disregard the will of the Arab nation and all peoples of the Third World. They have also been taught to think carefully before they make their statements and their ridiculous boastful [word indistinct] remarks. Blessed be your hands, O Iraqis. God bless you. Shame on the shameless.

Talk Claims U.S. Cruise Missiles Ineffective

NC2301070491 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0529 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] We all know that in its aggression against Iraq, America was wagering first and foremost on its technological advantage. Aircraft and missiles of all types are the cards America is playing. One of the most important of these is the cruise missile, a missile that had been loudly trumpeted by the Voice of America and agent Arab radios as one of great destructive power. We were treated to detailed descriptions about what generation it belongs to, how it was produced, and how effective it is. Anyone who listened to this torrent of information would have thought a new miracle had occurred: a missile with a brain that can only exist in America.

America has waged its ferocious attack against us with its planes and missiles. America is still relying on the cruise missile, a card played by Mr. Bush to a great media applause. What have been the results? Let us listen to the remarks by Peter Arnett, correspondent of the U.S. Cable News Network. He says: I saw with my own eyes an Iraqi missile destroy an American cruise missile in the middle of the capital, Baghdad. In a report that was transmitted live, he said: I saw the missile shot down.

Amman radio commented on the news by saying: We have no need [words indistinct] the Iraq Army on its precise interception and downing of the U.S. cruise missiles with antimissile missiles, despite the U.S. allegations about the effectiveness of its missiles.

Meanwhile, Israel has launched a large-scale media campaign about the Patriot antimissile missiles it has received from America. The Iraqi mujahidin have downed cruise missiles by the score—cruise missiles imbued with the spirit of the devil's henchman, Bush. In one of the many incidents in which a cruise missile failed to explode, a group of citizens carried the dud missile [words indistict] and turned it over to the competent authorities.

This is their much-vaunted cruise missile. The Iraqis killed it.

As for the Patriot missiles which the United States has delivered to Israel and which Israel claims it can use to bring down the al-Husayn [Scud] missiles, reports say that the Zionist entity had a number of these Patriot missiles all along, but they failed to intercept the Iraqi missiles which are pounding the Zionist entity. The reason for this is that the superior creativity of the Iraqi mind was a component in the manufacture of these missiles. In addition, our missiles have the protection of God, for they bear the names of our ancestors.

Baghdad Radio Lauds 'Unbroken' Will

NC2301130991 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1112 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] O brother citizens, O honorable Arabs everywhere: The Arab people will remember the words of treachery, deception, meanness, and depravity—the words of Husni Mubarak who threatened Iraq with explosions and earthquake. He threatened that everything will be demolished and that Iraqi force will be destroyed. He also instigated the Americans to strike at Iraq in order to expedite the war. What meanness and depravity!

Seven days have passed since the criminal aggression was launched against Iraq. This aggression is being carried out by an alliance of 28 countries, in addition to those behind the scenes, and is being financed by billions of dollars. The criminal allies have opened their arsenals. The funds of the betrayer of the two holy mosques Fahd, Croesus, and the oil brokers in the Gulf are being spent. American bases have been established on land and at sea—on the land of the sanctities of the Arabs and Muslims, in Najd and Hejaz, the treasonous Gulf shaykhdoms, and in Turkey.

Despite all this (?flow) and despite the thousands of aerial sorties and the missile attacks, the Iraqi will has remained unbroken and the Iraqi resistance is unwavering before threats and arrogance. The banner of Iraq, on which is emblazoned the name of God, is still raised strongly by the arms of all Iraqis behind their symbol and leader, the hero Saddam Husayn.

The Iraqis neither shook nor collapsed while Bush, Husni, and Fahd lost their nerve. They became outraged and began to count the hours as if they were a whole age. How disappointed and miserable they are! What a miserable situation they are in! For what evil things had their bad souls hoped!

Let those remember now what we told them before. Let them remember that calculations made by computers are not the real calculations. The Iraqis and their great symbol and leader Saddam Husayn have turned the mythic Phantom aircraft and cruise missiles into mundane matters that can be tackled and dealt with militarily through Iraqi-made traditional and technical means. Today, the Americans, the Zionists, and their allies roam about the desert searching for the al-Husayn missiles without finding any trace of them. When they are disappointed, the missile blows surprise them.

Praise be to God for His victory. And praise be to God who guides us to what safeguards Iraq, preserves our dignity, and allows our weapons to crush Tel Aviv, Haifa, and other cities in Israel in addition to the dens of Fahd without these scoundrels being able to inflict any harm on them. How sweet is victory, how sweet is determination, and how sweet is the duel in the mother of all battles which will mobilize all the resources of the nation and its depth, all the resources and spiritual capabilities of the Muslims, and all the cries of all the suffering and oppressed in the world. The battle of Iraq is the battle of humanity, the battle of justice against falsehood, the battle of faith against infidelity. And the leader of the gathering of faithful is the descendant of Muhammad, the hero Saddam Husayn.

We say to our honorable Arab brothers that we deal with [word indistinct] every moment. It is your victory, the victory of the believers, and the victory of humanity. The defeat of America is a rectification of the course of civilization and the start of a new and just international order in which the grandsons of Nebuchadnezzar, [word indistinct], and Saladin will certainly play a major role. Thus, the Arabs will be pleased, the Muslims' conscience will be satisfied, and the honorable men in the world will be happy because Iraq today is their symbol and banner.

Air Defense Commander Reportedly Executed

LD2301144791 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] The Iraqi regime two days ago executed the Iraqi Air Defense commander, on orders from Saddam Husayn, for the commander's failure to repel the intensive air raids launched by the joint international forces against Baghdad for the liberation of Kuwait.

The Bahraini paper AL-AYYAM, which published the news, said the commander had the rank of major general. Quoting military sources, the paper further said that the commander of Kuwait-based engineers' forces, Brigadier General 'Abd al-Jabbar al-'Awadhi, was killed during the bombing by the joint forces of military installations in Kuwait.

'Iraqi-Kurdish' Gunmen Said To Infiltrate Iraq

PM2301091591 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 20 Jan 91 p 1

[Unattributed report: "It Has Been Reported"]

[Text] It has been reported that large numbers of Iraqi-Kurdish opposition gunmen on the Iraqi-Iranian-Turkish borders have infiltrated deep [into Iraq] with their arms since the beginning of the military operations, exploiting the state of chaos, anarchy, and mass desertion from the Iraqi Army.

Saddam's Wife Said Staying in Geneva

LD2201172391 Berlin ADN in German 1650 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—There are increasingly serious indications that Saddam Husayn's closest family members are in Switzerland. "BILD" newspaper reports in its Wednesday edition that an Iraqi living in exile in Switzerland, who knows Saddam Husayn's family personally, has asserted he had "definitely" identified Mrs. Sajida and other members of the family at the fashionable spa Gstaad.

Also, the Iraqi UN mission was trying to rent a house in Gstaad for a "lengthy period." It is further a fact that the father of Mrs. Sajida lives in Switzerland, and Saddam's half-brother Barzan al-Takriti works as Iraq's UN ambassador in Geneva. For years Barzan secretly invested money for Saddam's family in Switzerland.

With reference to the denial from the Swiss Foreign Affairs Department which stated that Saddam's wife, Sajida, is "not here," it emerged from informed circles that "not here" referred to Cologny (Geneva). Saddam's wife is also said to have been seen there.

'Reliable Sources' Cited

AU2301103291 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 23 Jan 91 p 8

["DW/Co" report: "Fires in Kuwait's Oil Fields; Saddam's Family in Switzerland"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] As has become known from reliable sources, Saddam Husayn's family is allegedly staying in Geneva, where the International School has already been closed for security reasons. Saddam's wife, Sajida, who has been staying in Cologny, 12 km outside Geneva since she left Baghdad by plane last Thursday [17 January], is living in a villa with a staff comprising 22 persons. All of them hold Iraqi diplomatic passports. Emissaries acquired the property as recently as November. They also bought the jewelry of former Iranian Empress Farah at an auction. The international school of Cologny, which the children of the Iraqi diplomats were to attend, was closed because of fears of terrorist attacks, according to an official statement.

IDF Announces Iraqi Missile Attack 22 Jan

NC2201185091 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1839 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] A spokesman for the Israel Defense Forces [IDF] issued the following statement a short time ago: Sirens were sounded intermittently all over the country a short time ago after Israel came under a missile attack. All citizens are required to put on protective gas masks immediately and to go to a hermitically sealed room. After family members enter this room, they must seal the threshold with a wet piece of cloth and seal the door-frame with adhesive tape. They must also immediately turn off air conditioners and make sure that children have properly put on their protective gas masks. The citizens must continue to listen to statements broadcast over the radio and implement the instructions in them.

Site of Attack Identified

TA2301120291 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Twenty-seven wounded from last night's rocket attack are still in hospitals. Three were killed in the attack and 96 wounded. Some 20 buildings surrounding the building that was hit suffered damage, and hundreds of residents are being accommodated in hotels. General Ya'aqov Lapidot, the defense minister's adviser on the home front, has said that rescue operations were speedy and efficient. Lapidot confirmed that the orders to remain in sealed rooms during attacks were still in force. The mayors of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv this morning visited the site of last night's rocket attack in Ramat Gan.

Attack Called 'Severe'

TA2201210891 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 2042 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Studio interview with Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Spokesman Brigadier General Nahman Shay by Daniyel Pe'er and Shim'on Tessler—live]

[Excerpt] [Shay] Good evening. The current picture is as follows: The missile hit hard, very hard. It was a direct hit on a residential home and its immediate vicinity. All in all, approximately 20 buildings were hit. The number of casualties that have so far been counted is approximately 60. Between 50 and 60. Since the evacuation process is still under way, I cannot, at this stage, report on the precise condition of all the casualties. We will wait until the picture is clearer.

At any rate, let me say this was definitely a severe hit by the missile in a residential area of Tel Aviv.

[Tessler] Would you be able to tell us whether people were killed?

[Shay] That is where I would like to remain a bit unclear until we are able to provide a full picture, with everything we can say. My phrasing, that the attack was severe, indicates that there were casualties.

[Pe'er] Were our Patriot missiles able to intercept their missiles?

[Shay] We launched two Patriot missiles from one of the batteries in the Tel Aviv area. According to all indications, the missile was not intercepted because it achieved a direct hit. Perhaps more than one missile was launched and the other one was hit. That, for now, is unclear. In any event, the other missile made a direct hit and the damage caused by it, as I said, was heavy, including many casualties.

[Tessler] Have all the people in the area been evacuated?

[Shay] No, not yet. The evacuation process is still going on. That is what I said earlier, which is why my account is incomplete and why I am waiting a bit. The evacuation operation is still continuing.

Let me tell you something. Brigadier General Yehuda Danon, the chief medical officer, who is at the site supervising the procedures, reported that many electricity pylons have been torn, that water pipes and cooking gas containers have been severed and yanked out of their place. In short, the people walking around the place are in mortal danger. The security forces reached the site very shortly after the attack and launched the evacuation process in an effort to reach everyone who was hit. The curious bystanders are totally unnecessary. Let us repeat: Those who do not belong to the special units trained for the evacuation of casualties or similar operations should stay away. We ask the public to please—as we have said since 2037 hours [1837 GMT], when the missile hit—keep away from the site. Access to the place is being blocked, and the people are simply in the way. Let those whose job it is to evacuate the casualties go about their business unimpeded.

[Pe'er] Has any change been announced regarding the return to normal work everywhere, including the Dan region ?

[Shay] As of now, no change has been announced. I repeat what I said before: We are in a state of war now; missiles are being launched at us, and this is the third time. Residential areas have been damaged. We must acknowledge that and live with that. For now, the previous announcement on work remains, though schools are not being reopened. We ask the public to observe the security and personal safety regulations and carry the protective kits. [passage omitted]

Scud Warhead Said Conventional

TA2201202891 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 2011 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Telephone interview with Israel Defense Forces (IDF) spokesman Brigadier General Nahman Shay by Mikha Friedman and Arye Golan—live]

[Excerpts] [Friedman] Brigadier General Shay, what can you add to what we already know?

[Shay] What we can say now is that one site struck by a Scud missile has been spotted in the metropolitan Tel Aviv area. There are casualties and right now they are being evacuated. Many of the victims have already been examined and are already in the hospital. For now, I cannot disclose the precise number of casualties, so I would ask you to please wait a while before we issue an exact report on the number of casualties and their condition.

[Golan] Was that a conventional warhead or a chemical warhead?

[Shay] The warhead was conventional, otherwise we would not have allowed Tel Aviv area residents out of their sealed rooms or told them they can take their gas masks off. The attack, as in all the previous attacks by missiles of this type, was with a conventional warhead. [passage omitted]

The defense minister and the chief of staff have already visited the site. They examined the situation and assessed the damage. I presume that soon we will be able to give you a fuller picture.

[Golan] Could you perhaps tell us how big a salvo it was that hit Israel?

[Shay] As I said before, there was one area struck by a missile. We are trying to see whether other places have been hit as well.

[Golan] What about the Patriot missiles?

[Shay] They were fired, although at this time I cannot report a hit. We will only be able to know later whether or not they hit when the missile site has been examined more carefully. [passage omitted]

Casualties: 3 Dead, 98 Wounded

TA2301025191 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 0220 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Report by Yaron Enosh]

[Text] A total of 98 wounded people were taken to five hospitals in the central district, of whom 48 have already been released. Some 50 people are left in the hospitals. The condition of the wounded: 74 are slightly wounded; three sustained medium injuries; two are critically wounded; and there are 19 whose condition has not yet been determined, that is, they are going through the initial stages of being examined, and their condition will be determined in the coming hour. The chances are that most of these 19 people will be classified as slightly wounded.

Three women have died. One of them was taken to Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, the second to Tel Hashomer Hospital, and the third to Beilinson Hospital. It should be noted that heart attack was not the cause of death in all three cases, as reported earlier. The dead woman who was taken to Ichilov Hospital died of crushing wounds as a result of the explosion. The two other dead women suffered heart attacks as a result of the missile impact.

Shamir: No Promise of Retraint if More Attacks

TA2301123991 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Jan 91 pp A1, A3

[Pool report]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will this morning convene senior ministers to discuss the current situation. Senior ministers estimated that the missile attack yesterday evening hastens an Israeli retaliation. The fact that the Patriot missiles did not manage to intercept the missile and that the multinational force in the Gulf has not been successful in eliminating the missile launchers only strengthens those supporting taking action.

During one of the telephone conversations Shamir held over the weekend with President Bush, the prime minister heatedly protested the attacks on Israeli population centers. Shamir refrained from promising the President that he would also show restraint in the wake of an additional barrage of missiles. The political echelon in Jerusalem is displeased with the Washington Administration. [passage omitted]

Spokesman: Israel Reserves Right to Self-Defense

LD2301032791 Jerusalem International Service in English 0100 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Colonel (Rahanan Gissing), deputy Israeli Defense Forces spokesman, tonight told reporters: You can rest assured we are examining all the options to safeguard our people and that the government will find a solution. The Army spokesman said there was no change in Israel's overall policy regarding the Gulf conflict. He said we'll exercise self-restraint, but we also reserve our right to take self-defense measures.

Colonel (Gissing) added that efforts would continue to try returning life in Israel to normal. He said people will again go to work tomorrow but schools remain closed for the time being.

Arens Adviser Says Israel Will Respond

TA2201235291 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 2235 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Telephone interview with Dani Nave, media adviser to the defense minister, by Arye Golan—live]

[Text] [Golan] Is the hour of an Israeli reaction getting nearer?

[Nave] Well, before we discuss the future it is important to repeat that a very grave incident took place this evening. Over the past few days we have reiterated several times that the danger is not past. This evening,

indeed, the additional missile launched at Israel demonstrated the degree of danger. At such a time it is possible to understand the feelings of anger which every Israeli is experiencing. These are natural feelings. Nevertheless, this is an hour of testing for all of us. This is a test of our strength. It should be clear that we are facing a difficult battle, the kind of battle we might not have experienced in the past. Still, the citizens in Israel have proven their ability to withstand battles in the past, and they will prove so now, too.

As for the future: Let me repeat that Israel will react, but we will decide the timing. The United States also understands this. We are a sovereign state and will adopt all measures necessary to defend our citizens.

[Golan] Dani, when we discussed the Iraqi missiles and interviewed people about them, we heard that when their range and distance was extended, their weight was decreased via a reduction in the size of their warhead, the approximate damage of which was compared to that of a booby-trapped car. We saw the building that took the direct hit and the 20 buildings around it that were also affected; how much did this warhead weigh?

[Nave] This warhead weighed a considerable number of kilograms, even though it is not considered large in the missile arena. [Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Networks in Hebrew at 2300 GMT on 22 January reports that "as far as is known, the missile was armed with a conventional warhead, the explosives of which weighed 200 kg. The defense minister and chief of staff visited the missile site and later held consultations."]

The missile itself is clumsy, but even a clumsy missile with a warhead which is not considered big, as I have just noted, can inflict damage. This should be taken into account. We have indeed taken into account that for all their clumsiness and relatively smaller warheads they can inflict damage. We should be aware of this, and let me repeat what we have stated time and again these days: This danger has not yet passed. This evening, we even have casualties that point to the degree of this danger. Let me, however, make an appeal: Despite the great anger everyone feels inside him at this time, this is also a test for each one of us. Let everybody who is seated at home and listening to us now be assured that the defense minister, the chief of staff, and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] generals are not sitting still at the moment.

[Golan] Saddam Husayn is launching missiles at a civilian population, while the United States refrains from doing so. Should the rules of the game change, in your opinion?

[Nave] The rules of the game determined by Saddam Husayn were clear to us since the very first night in which Saddam Husayn launched missiles at a civilian population in Israel. From that very first moment we said that our game rules are a reaction, adding, though, that we will decide on the timing. It should be clear that the situation is quite complex. Anybody who looks at the map and knows which forces are active in the region today should understand the complexity of the situation. This is not the kind of routine battle we have known in the past, with the IDF's relatively simple reaction ability. The situation is complex. We need to pay attention to every detail and not rush to conclusions. At the same time, let me repeat: From the very first missile attack we announced that the rules of the game were clear: We shall react.

[Golan] When I asked about the time of reaction I meant rather the method of reaction, the target: Should we hit an Iraqi civilian population to cause Iraq intolerable pain which may, perhaps, tie Saddam Husayn's hands and prevent him from continuing this line of attacking our civilian population? Can this be considered at all?

[Nave] Look, the only thing we should consider now—and this is done by the defense minister, the chief of staff, and the IDF generals—is how to eliminate the missile threat from the citizens of the State of Israel. As for a vendetta or punishment, the time for this may also come. It is not the time to deal with punishment now, nor could you expect me to elaborate on the subject.

[Golan] On another matter perhaps, Dani: It seems that the Patriot missiles have not yet been successful here.

[Nave] Indeed. Tonight they have not been successful. I hope that nobody entertained the illusion that the Patriot missile system provides absolute protection. We stated that this is not the case, as we could also gather from the performance of this system in Saudi Arabia. There were cases in which this system was more successful, and others in which it was less successful. This system improves Israel's air defense system, but it surely cannot provide an absolute answer for the removal of the missile threat.

[Golan] I do not know if you were able to follow all the reports we broadcast over the last hour, but a few minutes ago our correspondent in Washington said that the Pentagon blames the Israelis for the miss by this system tonight. The Pentagon is quoted as having said that although the operating teams are American, the control system is still in Israel's hands. What is your response to this?

[Nave] It is inconceivable to me that an official and authoritative element in the Pentagon has indeed said something of the sort since everybody is aware of the situation in the area. Consequently, I do not think I need enter this subject now.

[Golan] Thank you very much, Dani Nave, the defense minister's adviser.

Deputy Foreign Minister Interviewed on Attack

TA2201230491 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 2210 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Studio interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by Mikha Friedman—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Good day to you Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

[Netanyahu] Good day.

[Friedman] We have seen the hard pictures from the missile site tonight. We have witnessed the dimensions of the destruction. We already know quite a bit about the number of casualties, and have heard some of the reactions of the area residents. Is the policy of restraint adopted by the Israeli Government still in effect?

[Netanyahu] The policy, naturally, is one of thinking carefully and acting very well. Everybody's heart is very agitated at the moment, but we must not follow our hearts only. We must not lose our heads; we must act with reason. We will do everything necessary to defend our land. We should definitely recognize that this is a terrorist offensive par excellence; this is ultra terror. Still, the missiles will not break our spirit, nor will we be bent by this terror. We should do two things: The government and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will take all measures necessary to defend the country, and the public will have to maintain normalcy in an abnormal state of affairs. I know the situation is abnormal, but there were other nations which were subject to even harsher attacks and maintained normalcy.

[Friedman] Is the time of reaction getting nearer?

[Netanyahu] I do not want to comment on this. I would only like to state the following: We said that the threat is still there. We said that for all the appreciation we feel for the U.S. Government for the stationing of the Patriot missiles here—incidentally, our teams are training as fast as possible in order to man them—these missiles provide only a partial answer; there can be no complete answer to the missile problem. We will have to use additional measures to solve this problem.

[Friedman] We have already heard that the prime minister will hold consultations with other ministers on this issue tomorrow morning. Thank you Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

Further Reportage on Eagleburger Talks

Meets Shamir, Others

TA2201132291 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Networks in Hebrew 1245 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem]

[Text] The meeting between the senior Israeli Government team and the U.S. delegation headed by Lawrence Eagleburger ended a short time ago. Representing Israel were Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Ministers Arens and Levi, as well as their advisers. It was the highest-level forum Eagleburger has met with in Israel. Representing the United States were Eagleburger, Wolfowitz, and Ambassador Brown. Eagleburger left here a few minutes ago, smiling as usual, and as usual refusing to be interviewed. Few details are known about the meeting. Let us first hear the official announcement by Avi Pazner, the prime minister's media adviser.

[Begin Pazner recording] It was a friendly, serious talk, which lasted almost two hours and during which they discussed the issues now facing us, the Iraqi missile attacks, and the ways to respond to them. Also discussed were the special needs of Israel, which in recent months has faced economic and security problems. The talks, which lasted two hours, were conducted in an atmosphere of cooperation and friendship, which characterize Israeli-U.S. relations these days. [end recording]

It appears that in today's talks they discussed two chief issues, which are the immediate problems troubling Israel. First and foremost, there is the Iraqi surface-to-surface Scud missile problem, which was the main focus of the deliberations, and then there is the economic issue. Eagleburger arrived here from the Treasury, where he was asked for increased aid to help immigrant absorption and to cover, or aid in covering, Israel's large defense expenditures in the wake of the Gulf war. Both these immediate issues were raised in today's talks, but then, just as in previous talks, the U.S. delegation and the Israeli Government also discussed proposals for future cooperation in military, economic, and political fields. The main thing is not to pressure us to agree to an international conference. Eagleburger and his delegation are remaining in Israel for the time being. Their return date has not been fixed. They will probably continue their talks here tomorrow and also continue the closest coordination between the U.S. Administration and Israel—and, in fact, between President Bush personally and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Talks Focus on 'Maximum Cooperation'

TA2201204391 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Report by political correspondent 'Imanu'el Halperin—live]

[Text] We have already obtained 93 percent understanding with the Americans, and there is good reason to believe that we will reach 100 percent. This is how a senior political source in Jerusalem this evening described the results of the talks held so far with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger and his team. It is possible that this evening's missile attack on Israel will even hasten this process.

The Americans conferred this afternoon with the Israeli troika: Shamir, Levi, and Arens. The future, meaning the issues concerning the post-crisis Middle East, was not discussed at all. The entire conversation, all conversations, focused on coordinating the understandings concerning the current crisis. There has to be maximum cooperation with the Americans in this complicated sphere.

The United Sates continues expressing its satisfaction with Israel's restrained behavior, but it also understands

and accepts Israel's right to react. Most of the meetings with the Eagleburger delegation are being held at the Defense Ministry. In this framework Israel is asking for more than goodwill; it demands that all their promises in the various areas of aid be kept, meaning equipment, information, and coordination.

The U.S. team is representing President Bush, but it has no authority to make decisions on everything. That is why it holds constant consultations with Washington. This evening Eagleburger is scheduled to talk to President Bush, whom he will probably brief about the missile attack, and it is possible that he might have to extend his stay here by a day or two.

Levi on U.S. Cooperation, Talks With Arabs

TA2301012491 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by Yoni Ben-Menahem on 22 January in Jerusalem; in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles—recorded]

[Text] [Ben-Menahem] Mr. Levi, are we to understand from your remarks that cooperation between Israel and the United States is tight today, and Israel will now receive what it has not received in the past?

[Levi] Definitely so. It has tightened. This has been expressed in a public statement by President Bush as well as in letters to us. The U.S. commitment to Israel, its security and future, are today felt by the U.S. administration and people more than ever before. Indeed, cooperation is tightening in all spheres.

[Ben-Menahem] After five days of fighting in the Gulf, and in view of the results so far and the continuing threat of missiles aimed at Israel, do you see Israel involved in the war in the Gulf, and if so in what way?

[Levi] Israel never wanted to be involved in this war. It was threatened, and this threat turned into a barbaric and cruel attack against Israel and its population. It is Israel's prerogative to defend itself. This is understood today not only by Israel's friends, but also by yesterday's enemies. I hope they become our friends; I hope after this tragedy, this hell, ends our region will finally live in peace and the threat will become a thing of the past, that children will be able to grow up not as martyrs-to-be, but as builders and artists.

Israel is constructing its defense. Israel is reserving its right to react if it is attacked. Israel is also looking at the future, and looking for partners with which to construct a good future in our region.

[Ben-Menahem] Mr. Levi, how do you view Israel's position in the new structure that will be created after the Gulf war, beyond the sympathy countries in the world are showing Israel these days?

[Levi] I hope we will finally attain the elementary right accepted in every part of the world, that Israel's neighbors, those countries which have so far refused to sit down with it, will eventually talk peace with Israel. I hope they change their minds and sit with us at the negotiating table so we can attain peace. I hope the process Europe, East and West, underwent—the demolishing of walls that separated nations—will reach here this spring as well. I hope those walls of hostility—the desert sands that have blinded the eyes of people from seeing a good future and created nothing but hatred—will eventually collapse and let us see—face to face—the possibility of being good neighbors, of cooperating for the sake of our children so that we can help each other with the experience and the abundance that we have here. Let us work to prevent the Middle East from becoming the channel for all destructive weapons, which are not necessary anywhere in the whole but which will flow here. In the face of death and destruction, let us tread the path of life and construction.

Levi: No Understanding With U.S. on Restraint

TA2201114891 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1015 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by Knesset affairs correspondent Dov Gilhar at the Knesset on 22 January—recorded]

[Text] [Gilhar] In Israel and abroad, people are asking whether Israel has reached a tacit understanding with the United States according to which it will act with self-restraint in exchange for Patriot missiles. What can you tell them on this issue?

[Levi] There is no such understanding. On the contrary, there is an agreement to maintain a dialogue, consultations, and coordination. Israel reserves the right to take care of its own defense, and when it decides on a course, it will be its own decision, made after every aspect and development has been examined. It will be ready for every development. Israel does not, and never did, want to be involved in this war, but it has been threatened, and merciless salvos of missiles made the threat come true.

Israel was and is prepared to protect itself and its safety. For that purpose, it would be preferable to have an understanding with the Americans and to coordinate with them. In our meetings we dwell on those issues, as well as the U.S. acknowledgment of, and agreement to, our right to take action against aggression that imperils our citizens' safety. I hope that when we make a decision, we will find that we are in sync, rather than out of harmony, with our friends. Presently, even former enemies understand that Israel has a right to protect itself when attacked.

[Gilhar] Mr. Levi, what will guide Israel's decision-making if it decides—without crossing red lines—to end the state of passive alert?

[Levi] The Government of Israel is examining every possibility. It is not passive, and it is preparing itself without losing its cool. Whatever it eventually decides will be the result of a meticulous examination of methods, timing, and scope. I hope we will not need to resort to it; there is no one here who wants such an outcome. However, neither is there anyone in Israel who would agree to be the proverbial sacrificial lamb, passive and defenseless, waiting for chemicals to poison us. Israel will not adjust itself to such a situation, and this state of things will not recur. It is both our duty and right to take action to avert the recurrence of such situations, and our American friends understand that.

Chief of Staff Shomron on U.S., Aerial Defense

TA2201142291 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1350 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Report by Knesset correspondent Ze'ev Kohen, live from the studio]

[Excerpt] Dan Shomron, chief of the General Staff, appeared before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee a short while ago. This was the second time the chief of staff appeared before that committee since the crisis broke out. He refused to make any remarks upon leaving the session, but he used this forum to put things in the right proportions. Incorrect reports were made about the progress of the U.S. forces and the allies. The chief of staff said today that the U.S. presence is very massive; they operate 24 hours a day to destroy the missile launchers. He added that the Americans are following a very good preplanned schedule, and that they are progressing well according to that plan.

In the meeting, Shomron said that the threat of the Scud missiles has not yet been removed, but it has been decided that all will resume normal work. The decision weighed the risks against the damage to the state's economy. The aerial defense system has been significantly improved, and in the next few days more alarm sirens will be set up.

The chief of staff also said that the cooperation with the Americans has improved immensely.

Knesset Member Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, the committee's chairman, said that Israel's citizens must be calmer, but not indifferent. Here are some of his remarks:

[Begin Ben-Elisar recording] There is no weapon system in the world that could provide an absolute response to some other system. Nothing can create an absolutely foolproof situation. The Patriot does not make our skies absolutely impenetrable. It is, however, effective and has a high percentage of reliability. That is why everyone can be a lot calmer, but in no way should the calm be mistaken for apathy—no way. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Peres Opposes Government Foreign Policy

TA2201112691 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1000 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres today sharply criticized the government's policy on the Gulf crisis at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, which is still meeting. In a response to a report given by Foreign Minister David Levi, Mr. Peres said the government must decide whether the world is against us, as the government has repeatedly claimed, or for us. Mr. Peres also said a profile is not a policy, but a given fact. Our Knesset correspondent Ya'aqov Ahime'ir interviewed Mr. Peres in the Knesset a short time ago.

[Begin recording] [Ahime'ir] Mr. Peres, did you decide to end the opposition's silence on the current situation at the committee meeting this morning?

[Peres] No, I always said that on defense issues we are united and that on foreign policy we are divided. I do not agree that until yesterday the world was united against us and that as of this morning the entire world supports us.

[Ahime'ir] Are you referring to Foreign Minister Levi's description of the situation?

[Peres] I do not want to refer to what happened at the committee, and therefore I am not quoting the foreign minister. I believe, however, that friendship can grow from friendship and that the world will not be frightened if we raise our hand or flex our muscle. The United States went into battle against Iraq, a tyrant and an aggressor, at its own initiative.

[Ahime'ir] Are you saying that it is not the strength of our forces or our policy that brought about the coordination with the United States?

[Peres] No, what I am saying is that greater friendship with the United States can be brought about through already existing friendship. There is no need to insist that our firm stand on something is the reason the United States changed its policy. As a human being and a politician who deals with these things, I know that a good policy can lead to an even better policy.

[Ahime'ir] Is that also the lesson for the future after the crisis ends?

[Peres] Yes, certainly, I do not want to maintain a low profile after the war ends. In other words, I do not want a military, political, and economic coalition to be set up that does not include us. In war time such a situation can be acceptable, but after the war we must strive to be included and not be an outsider. [end recording]

Shamir Denies Security Agreements for Patriots

TA2101110691 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1000 GMT 21 jan 91

[Text] Our correspondent Dov Gilhar has just reported that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has denied reports

that Israel had promised Washington not to attack Iraq in exchange for the Patriot missiles it has received from the United States. Speaking at the Knesset, the prime minister told correspondents that Israel has no agreements connected with security issues.

Initial Assessment of Damages Caused by Missiles

TA2101200491 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Jan 91 p A5

[Report from Tel Aviv by Yerah Tal]

[Excerpts] The number of people who will be evacuated from their residences in southern Tel Aviv in the wake of the Iraqi missile attacks may reach 800. They will be accommodated in seven three-star hotels throughout the city. [passage omitted]

According to an initial estimate, all the buildings within a 200-meter radius of missile hit sites have been damaged. It is believed that 500 buildings have been damaged and that 30 will have to be demolished. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 21 January, in a page 13 report by Yosi Grinstein, adds that last night, the scope of the damage caused in the Tel Aviv area by the Iraqi missile attacks was assessed at "approximately 20 million shekels," or $10 million. This report was given to the Knesset Finance Committee by Income Tax and Property Tax Commissioner Moshe Gavish.]

20 Jan Papers Consider Response to Attacks

TA2001221691

[Editorial Report] All Israeli newspapers on 20 January dedicate much of their copy to reports, commentaries, and editorials on the two Iraqi missile attacks on Israel.

The main line taken by most of the papers is that although Israel's deterrence may be affected if Jerusalem defers its response to the Iraqi missiles, the currently delicate military and political situation make an automatic Israeli strike inadvisable. Therefore, Israel must respond, but only after carefully choosing the time and place, and only in the most appropriate and effective way.

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English in a page 4 editorial entitled "The Retaliation Dilemma" is scathing in its criticism of European countries, which after helping Iraq build up its military machine now call on Israel to show restraint. The POST notes the complexity of a situation in which Israel must balance its need to maintain its deterrent posture with its desire not to undermine the U.S.-led coalition against Iraq.

THE JERUSALEM POST warns that "The U.S. administration and its European allies are now virtually begging Israel not to act. But this will soon be forgotten. What will remain is the perception that American pilots had to risk their lives for Israel." It adds: "Israel's dilemma is painfully real. It does not wish to seem to quarrel with a coalition headed by the U.S. and Britain, whose courage and determination in challenging Saddam Husayn it deeply admires. Yet it cannot allow itself to be perceived as a protectorate in a part of the world where the notion of 'a new world order' is hopelessly incongruous. As former defense minister Yitzhaq Rabin said yesterday, Israel must base its response on only two considerations: Whether the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] can, under the special circumstances prevailing in Iraq, destroy the missile threat; and whether it can do so without risking operational difficulties with the U.S. airforce."

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 20 January in a page A2 commentary by Ze'ev Schiff entitled: "Can the IDF Take Unique Action To Stop the Missile Attacks," states: "Following the second barrage of missiles on Israeli cities the government now faces two critical questions: One of them is whether to react to the Iraqi attack, in what scope, and when? The second question is what kind of daily routine should be introduced in view of the situation in which the threat of missiles—which admittedly have not caused serious damage yet—has virtually paralyzed Israel's economy?"

The HA'ARETZ editorial on page B1 calls for caution and restraint for the time being. The editorial, entitled: "To Keep Our Nerve," states that "it would be wrong for the Israeli Government to play into Saddam Husayn's hands." The editorial weighs the pros and cons of an Israeli strike at Iraq's missile launchers, noting that "no one questions the battle capabilities of our Air Force pilots; however, it is doubtful that they would be able to locate the mobile Iraqi missile launchers with a greater degree of success than the U.S. and British Air Forces." The editorial concludes: "In the meantime we must remain alert to the fact that we are facing danger. We must face the test of nerves and count on the United States and their allies to be capable of ridding us of the current nightmare."

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 20 January, in a page B1 commentary by Dan Margalit entitled "The Right To Respond and the Obligation To Show Restraint," warns that the lack of Israeli reaction could be perceived as weakness by its Arab neighbors, noting that "such a situation—according to the hawks in the government and in part of the opposition—would mean seriously undermining Israel's deterrent capability." Furthermore, the hawks claim "that the undermining has already begun." Margalit asserts that "this is a legitimate viewpoint, but it is narrow-minded and impatient." He explains: "As long as Israel does not threaten Iraq with its nuclear potential, and as long as it remains clear that even if Israel has such a practical option, it would not dare use it in the first round of fighting, I do not see any essential change in the situation. The direct Israeli threat to Iraq would receive new meaning only if the United States were to pull out of the campaign." Margalit concludes that "Shamir and his colleagues have orchestrated Israel's policy regarding the Gulf crisis very wisely so far."

Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 20 January in a page 7 editorial entitled "Not a Voluntary Siege" calls on the Israeli public not to lose heart as a result of the Iraqi missile attacks, and to try to return to normal life. AL HAMISHMAR asserts: "There is no reason to take unwarranted risks, but there is also no reason to keep an entire country under siege, especially if the war could be quite long. The government, together with the civil defense experts, must find the golden mean between the necessary security requirements and the resumption of normal life throughout the country."

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 20 January in a commentary by Avraham Tamir on pages 1 and 4 entitled "To React or Not To React" explains: "The problem facing the Israeli Government is not whether to react or not to react. After all, Israel will be forced to react if the missile attacks continue. The question is how?" It states that although Israel could deal Iraq's civilian population a massive blow, that could further exacerbate and widen the Gulf war. The commentary says: "Israel, acting out of those self-same considerations, should not deliver Iraq an overwhelming and pulverizing military blow as long as Iraq does not threaten Israel's very existence. Rather Israel should concentrate on military targets the destruction of which would remove the threat of missiles and planes." Tamir notes that talk of a new world order was voiced after the Middle East wars in 1956, 1967, and 1973, and he concludes that "the results of those wars proved that a new order must be founded on efforts for a comprehensive peace and not through military coercion."

The same issue of DAVAR runs an editorial entitled "The Wisdom in Holding Back," which states that "there are situations in the life of a people and a country in which holding back and showing self-restraint demand more courage and heroism than launching a quick military reaction." DAVAR states that "it is clear that Israel's restraint is not automatic and will not hold for every state and at every price." It concludes: "At any rate, with this prudent policy Israel has already made achievements in the field of public relations and in the political domain. In view of the current situation, those achievements must not be squandered by a hasty reaction resulting from pressures from hotheads."

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on page A10 carries an editorial in white print on a red background, with subheads in boldface, entitled "We Will Beat the Shit Out of Them." The editorial says that "the first thing we must promise ourselves is that we will punish them in a way that will remind them that it truly was, as the hound from Baghdad said, the mother of all wars. We will punish him in such a way that his successors and their gloating lackeys in the Arab countries and the territories will remember it as the mother of all defeats."

To make sure that they really get what they deserve, MA'ARIV cautions the government to choose the time, place, and intensity of its strike in a balanced, cool, and unemotional manner. "This strike cannot fail; it cannot get lost in the thousands of beatings now coming their way; it cannot be too soft due to sloppy planning; it cannot be meted out only because some of our ministers and spokesmen develop loose tongues as soon as they see a microphone."

"At the same time we must promise ourselves not to lose control," the editorial notes in boldface, calling on the public to go on taking the necessary precautions and supporting our military commanders and political decisionmakers.

Continuing with the boldface subhead "But we will beat the shit out of them," MA'ARIV notes that "this will happen tomorrow, in a week, or in a year. The time makes no difference; the main thing is that they should feel it going through their bones and remember us for 100 years. What matters is that it must hurt and that it must be clear to them that the pain comes only from us. There should be no partners to make it seem like somebody else was doing our job. Therefore," MA'ARIV concludes, "the right time and conditions must be found. We will yet beat the shit out of them—this is a promise."

Industrial Plants, Hospital Operating Plans Noted

TA2101121991 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1000 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] About 500 immigrants arrived in Israel aboard two flights from Budapest this morning. In the afternoon, two more flights carrying immigrants are expected. El Al continues flying to all its destinations in Europe and America on a schedule that has, however, been cut back. Today, 13 incoming and 12 outgoing flights are scheduled.

The U.S. Tower Air company is the only foreign airline which is resuming flights from Israel today. The flight was put forward from tomorrow night to 1600 today, and the passengers were requested to arrive at the airport no later than 1400.

The Industrialists Association reports that over half of the local industrial plants have resumed normal operation. Workers from the territories have not returned to work, and some plants have reported absenteeism among working mothers. Our correspondent Esti Schreck reports that all Jerusalem factories have resumed work. In Haifa, about 75 percent are functioning, while in the central district, plants defined as vital are operating and companies with export orders are preparing to resume work with reduced staff.

The Israel Railway is carrying on regularly scheduled operations. Our correspondent Haviva Roger notes that the number of passengers is negligible.

All public hospitals are functioning fully, with the exception of Rambam Hospital in Haifa, Sheba in Tel Hashomer, Beilinson in Petah Tiqva, Ichilov in Tel Aviv, Wolfson in Holon, Sha'arey Tzedeq in Jerusalem, and Soroka in Beersheba, which are functioning on an emergency basis. Outpatient clinics are open, and scheduled

surgery is being carried out. Patients requiring services at hospitals working on an emergency schedule are to be referred to other hospitals.

U.S. To Be Asked for Billions for Losses From War

TA2101182991 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Jan 91 p 10

[Report by Alisa Odenheimer]

[Text] Israel will be asking the U.S. for billions to compensate for losses brought on by the Gulf war, government officials said yesterday.

Sources in the Finance Ministry said that Israel would ask for an aid package consisting of a combination of grants, loans, and debt forgiveness, but refused to put a price tag on it.

They denied reports that Israel had already asked for the money. "We're accumulating points now," said one official, referring to Israel's decision not to respond—at least for now—to the Iraqi missile attacks. "We will bring the matter up later, together with our request for loans for immigrant absorption."

A senior government economist noted that the war, including the lengthy waiting time beforehand, has cost the Israeli economy tremendously in lost tourism, high insurance rates, lost orders from customers abroad, and increased defense costs.

"Between August and the beginning of the war, the whole thing cost us over $1 billion. Now, we have had to call up some reservists and may have to increase our defense budget even more," he added.

He went on to explain that the U.S., as a world leader, was able to act as a broker between countries, and was asking countries that were not directly involved in the war—but would benefit from Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait—to chip in for those countries that were experiencing losses as a result of the crisis.

The U.S. has already offered aid to Jordan, Egypt, and Syria, he added. "If they are getting help, why shouldn't we?" he concluded.

[Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 21 January, in a report on pages 1 and 4 by Moti Bassok and Avi Bnayahu, adds that "one of the Israeli personalities who participated in one of the talks" with Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger said that "this is only the first round of talks. He claimed there was no mention whatsoever of the remuneration Israel will receive should it accede to the U.S. request" for restraint. "Nor was there any mention of a U.S. reaction, if at all, should Israel turn down the request."]

Official Says Aircraft Carrier Was Not Requested

TA2001221391 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 2200 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Dani Nave, the defense minister's media adviser, says that Israel has never asked for a U.S. aircraft carrier to defend it. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe notes that Arens' adviser was reacting to a report that the United States is sending an aircraft carrier to the eastern Mediterranean Sea to defend Israel. Nave said that if a U.S. aircraft carrier has been sent, that could only be for U.S. purposes unrelated to Israel.

Public Urged To Observe Civil Defense Measures

TA1901133991 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Major General Ya'aqov Lapidot, the defense minister's adviser on the home front, said the missile attacks could continue until the mobile launchers are destroyed. The mobile launchers continue to exist and continue to operate, he said. Our Army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that Gen. Lapidot made the remarks during a tour of the sites hit by missiles early this morning. Gen. Lapidot called on the public to continue to observe all the civil defense measures. He said the hits and craters caused by the missiles showed their warheads weighed over 200 kg. He said the order to remain in sealed-up rooms and to don masks would probably continue. He also believes that, in the current situation, school will not resume tomorrow, but added that it is clear that Israel will not continue to live in such conditions for long and will remove the threat.

U.S., UK Missions in Israel Said Closed

NC2001120191 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] The U.S. Administration has decided to close its embassy in Tel Aviv and consulate in Jerusalem. Informed sources said the U.S. Administration's decision came after the Iraqi missiles pounded political, economic, and scientific targets in Tel Aviv, Haifa, and other areas. The sources also said the British Government has taken similar measures and closed its embassy in Tel Aviv and consulate in Jerusalem.

IDF Reopens Border to South Lebanese Workers

TA2101093191 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 0800 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] This morning, for the first time since the beginning of the war in the Gulf, hundreds of workers from south Lebanon returned to their jobs in plants in the Galilee. Until yesterday, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] had not allowed south Lebanese residents from entering Israel.

Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that the IDF has supplied major plants in the Galilee panhandle with protective kits for the south Lebanese workers.

No Pro-Saddam Demonstration in South Lebanon

TA2201175691 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1600 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] The bureau of the coordinator of the government activities in Lebanon has reported that there was no pro-Saddam demonstration staged by Shiites in the security zone.

The South Lebanese Army [SLA] headquarters told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that the SLA soldiers are not banning residents of the south who left the area from returning to their homes. They are conducting searches at checkpoints to make sure people who might jeopardize the security in the region do not enter south Lebanon.

Nationalist Incidents Reported in Arab Sector

TA2101015191 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 0100 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] A firebomb was hurled tonight at the police station in Nazareth. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that the firebomb ignited in the front yard but caused no damage. Two suspects were arrested. The incident is believed to have a nationalist background. This is the first nationalist incident reported in Nazareth and the Arab locations in Galilee since the beginning of the war in the Persian Gulf.

The Israeli flag placed at the entrance to the municipality building in Tur'an was set ablaze. Graffiti reading "We Are Palestine" was painted in the village. Our correspondent Menahem Horiowitz points out that this is the most serious incident in the Arab sector since hostilities broke out in the Gulf.

House Speaker Asks PRC, DPRK To Help Stop War

JN2201113191 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 Jan 91 p 3

[Excerpts] Amman (J.T.)—Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, Monday sent a cable to the speaker of the Chinese People's Assembly, appealing for support for the Iraqi people who are facing an aggression by the American-led coalition. [passage omitted]

In another cable to the speaker of North Korean parliament, 'Arabiyat said the U.N. Security Council resolutions against Iraq were unjust and in violation of all humanitarian principles and laws.

He appealed to North Korea to support the Iraqi people in the face of this aggression and help initiate negotiations for peace.

In both cables, the Speaker of the Lower House said that the NATO alliance is now launching a genocide war on the innocent people of Iraq who are in need of help to fend off this danger.

Jordan, he said, recognises the humanitarian roles played by the Chinese and North Korean people over the years and their keenness on maintining world security and stability.

He urged the two countries to contribute towards the solution of all the Middle Eastern problems through negotiations and in a just, equitable and peaceful manner.

'Arabiyat had earlier sent a cable to His Holiness Pope John Paul II also inviting him to lead efforts designed to attain world peace and security.

Crown Prince Hassan Interviewed on Events in Gulf

LD1801233491 London BBC Television Network in English 2230 GMT 17 Jan 91

[Interview with Crown Prince Hassan by correspondent Jeremy Paxman; from the "Newsnight" program—recorded]

[Text] [Paxman] Ever since war began to look inevitable, the Jordanians, through Crown Prince Hassan, have been warning that it could develop into an unprecedented disaster for everyone concerned. Already the Jordanians have condemned the attack on Iraq. Earlier tonight I asked the Crown Prince if he was at least assured the assault had hit mainly military targets.

[Hassan] We are told that the air strikes in the first four hours were in excess of 14,000 tonnes of high explosive, and that is equivalent to more than Hiroshima; so, effectively, the fact that force has been used so massively is, in our view, disproportionate to the stated objective of restoring Kuwait's sovereignty. It seems to be a massive generalized air strike at Iraqi targets, and we are extremely worried about the true story coming out of casualties, in particular, civilian casualties.

[Paxman] If you could get through to Saddam Husayn this evening, what would you say to him?

[Hassan] Well, as we have been saying for some time, when you get placed in a situation of facing such a massive military and air strike, I doubt very much if there would be much response. As I have been saying for some time, it's really a matter of Sampson and the temple that we are worried about. And, effectively, the whole region is going to be brought down by this conflict....

[Paxman, interrupting] You must draw some comfort from the fact that Israel, for example, has not so far been drawn into this war.

[Hassan] It is a very volatile situation. I think even the Israelis themselves have said that they cannot be complacent. And, who knows, I mean, we are speaking of, we hear of a new international order, but it seems to us to be very much a situation of turning the clock back and inviting foreign forces to the region, not only to fight a war, but possibly to police the aftermath.

[Paxman] If the Israelis were to get drawn into this war by being attacked by Iraq and they found it necessary, for example, to fly across Jordan, as they have said they will do, which side would the Jordanians be on?

[Hassan] We have said very clearly from the beginning that we are obliged to protect our territory and our airspace. We will not be a corridor for anyone.

[Paxman] Is it your judgment, Crown Prince, that there is widespread support for Saddam Husayn even now?

[Hassan] I think that the feeling here is, and in many parts of the Arab world, that if annexation, occupation of territory by war is a crime, you don't fight it by another crime. And what we are witnessing here today may, in fact, increase that feeling of anger at the massive devastation of Iraq.

[Paxman] Your Royal Highness, Jordan has opened her borders again today. What sort of flood of refugees are you expecting?

[Hassan] According to the UN humanitarian appeal, we are expecting up to 750,000. People are already trekking to the border on foot, and we hope that we can see them safely through; that is, third country nationals with vessels coming through the port of Aqaba, which is the only hope at the present time, as aircraft simply cannot leave. And that is of all nationalities, Asian nationalities in particular. And that is without, as yet, any indication of burns and wounds. Of course, if the horror of war is visited upon them, it is going to be a very difficult health responsibility for Jordan and the UN.

[Paxman] Can Jordan physically accommodate three-quarters of a million refugees?

[Hassan] Jordan would do its best to move them out. Physically, we can only accommodate 52,000 at any given moment.

Demonstrations at U.S., Egyptian Embassies

NC2201143391 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Randa Habib Dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Approximately 500 Jordanian, Iraqi, and Arab women have demonstrated in front of the U.S. and Egyptian embassies in Amman in the first popular protest of such magnitude since the outbreak of the war in the Gulf. The demonstrators raised Iraq's flag on a high place on the sidewalk across from the U.S. Embassy and shouted slogans supporting Iraq and denouncing the U.S. military campaign against that country.

The demonstrators then marched to the nearby Egyptian Embassy and shouted Arab and pan-Arab songs. The demonstrators could not continue their march toward the Syrian Embassy because they had no permit.

Further on Protests

JN2301103391 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—A crowd of 500 Jordanian and Iraqi women staged a protest in front of the American embassy in Amman Tuesday chanting anti-U.S. slogans and calling on the Iraqi armed forces to defeat the aggressors.

The women shouted support for Iraq and called for the downfall of George Bush and the heads of Arab countries arrayed behind the American-led coalition fighting Iraq.

The protesters—who staged the largest demonstration yet before the U.S. embassy—called for the implementation of the Iraqi Aug. 12 initiative which links the Gulf crisis with the Palestine question, and called for international resolutions to be applied with equal weight.

The women, many in the traditional robe and head dress and waving Iraqi, Jordanian and Palestinian flags, cursed the United States as the enemy of God and President George Bush as a "butcher of children."

It was the biggest demonstration at the U.S. mission since the Gulf war started last Thursday with American, Western and Arab bombing raids on Iraq to force it to leave Kuwait.

Security men, including riot police, watched the protest from cars as it moved from the U.S. embasy to the nearby Egyptian mission before ending peacefully.

The Jordanian Women's Committee for Steadfastness announced Tuesday it will organise a sit-in at the United Nations offices in Shmeisani Wednesday.

The U.N. offices have witnessed a series of sit-ins over the past three months, with women's delegations submitting notes to be forwarded to the U.N. Secretary General demanding an end to the foreign invasion of the Arabian Peninsula and a peaceful settlement of the Gulf crisis.

Arrivals from Iraq Report Planes Surrender

JN2301100691 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 23 Jan 91 pp 1, 13

["Exclusive"]

[Text] Arrivals from Iraq yesterday said that the day before yesterday they had seen, with their own eyes, three enemy planes landing on the motorway in the al-Rutbah area, approximately 400 km west of Baghdad. They said the planes had flown at a low altitude as a sign that they had no intention of carrying out any military action, and that they wanted to surrender.

The eyewitnesses added that the pilots disembarked from their planes with their hands raised, announcing their surrender. Wa'il Samih 'Uthman, a student at Irbil University, said that a large part of the cruise missiles that were fired at Iraq did not explode. He said the Iraqi citizens had carried them and handed them over to the Iraqi Armed Forces, which will manage to use them against enemy forces. He said the Iraqis enjoy high morale and insist on waging the confrontation until victory is achieved and until they have taught the invading forces a lesson they will never forget. He said that the enemy planes have repeatedly tried to raid the oil refinery in Bayji, but without any success worth mentioning, because the Iraqi antiaircraft defenses have prevented these planes from approaching their targets. He said the oil refinery is still operating at full capacity.

He said that when the sirens are sounded, indicating an imminent air raid, the Iraqis pump black smoke into the Baghdad skies to prevent the enemy planes from locating their targets. He added that after four days of air raids on Baghdad, he had walked through the streets without seeing any trace of the destruction claimed by the Western news media. He said that only a small part of the Defense Ministry building had been hit, and that the enemy planes had concentrated their raids on telecommunication centers. He said the remaining targets were decoys planted to delude enemy planes.

Striking at U.S. Interests Said 'Legitimate'

JN2201121291 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Jan 91 p 14

["A Mere Word" column by Ahmad al-Dabbas: "Striking at American Interests"]

[Text] Following the devastating failure inflicted on the United States and the states that carried out aggression against the Iraq of the Arabs, and after they have been unable to hit the strategic and military targets they were and still are planning to hit, the enemy forces carried out arbitrary and brutal air raids on civilian positions in the Iraq of pride and loftiness.

The indiscriminate air raids being carried out by the enemy planes on civilians clearly embody the true nature and objectives of this fascist and barbaric aggression, and prove that the United States and the states participating in the

aggression against Iraq are perpetrating the most hideous acts of terrorism and annihilation against mankind.

This systematic terrorism, that is being carried out by the United States and its NATO, mercenary, and agent partners, including the renegade and traitorous Arabs, is unequivocal proof of the confusion and horror among the ranks of Satan's soldiers, and a tangible embodiment of the great and legendary steadfastness of the lofty Iraqi people, of the strong resistance of their valiant army, and the courage of their triumphant leadership in steering the course of the mother of battles to backfire on the enemies and to later move resolutely and strongly from the stage of defense to that of attack when the enemies will pay a dear price for their aggression.

In light of this barbaric aggression and in reply to the American-Atlantic-Zionist acts of terrorism against the Iraqi people, there is no justification left for the Arab and Islamic peoples not to reply to this aggression by all means and everywhere in this world, especially since the United States has spoliated the world and exploited it to reinforce its aggression. Striking at American interests everywhere now is not only legitimate, it is necessary and is a trust that should be carried out by every Arab and Muslim and every honest freeman in this world.

If the Jordanian House of Representatives has frankly called, in its statement that expresses the conscience of every honest free Arab, for striking at American interests and those of the states that are participating in the aggression, and stressed that this is the responsibility of the Arab and Islamic peoples, then all the Arab and Islamic factions, parties, organizations, and individuals now face the test of replying to the American-Atlantic-Zionist terrorism.

The credibility of striking at American interests, as pledged by all the forces, organizations, and parties to reply to the aggression against the Iraq of pride, honor, liberation, and unity, is now on the touchstone, especially since mere talk is no longer useful, mere expressions of anger are no longer enough, and the voicing of solidarity with Iraq and denunciation of the aggression are no longer convincing. Only jihad and action can translate words into deeds so as to be truthful before God and history.

Iraq is fighting honorably, people, army, and leadership. The peoples of Europe and America are expressing their indignation with their governments because they are carrying out this flagrant aggression. However, the Arabs, the Muslims, the left, the right have sufficed themselves with distributing statements.

Jihad and suicide operations everywhere in this world and on all fronts are the only means that confirm that the Arabs are standing on the side of Iraq. God is great.

Columnist Urges Committees To Organize Jihad

JN2201142191 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 22 Jan 91 p 16

["Quickly" column by Ibrahim Sakkijha: "So That Jihad Will Not Continue To Be Mere Talk in the Air"]

[Text] President Saddam Husayn wanted to remind "all Arabs, all mujahidin, and all strugglers" wherever they maybe in this large world that of course they must carry out struggle and jihad against the gathering of evil, treason, and corruption. This gathering, as we know, is the gathering of America and its allies. He also reminded them that they should strike at the interests of that gathering wherever they maybe.

Thus, President Saddam Husayn has called for jihad. Iranian leader Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami also called for jihad before the Iranian parliament. Prior to the Iraqi president and Iranian religious leader's calls for jihad and for striking at the interests of America and its allies everywhere in the world, similar calls were made by several enthusiastic committees and personalities in Jordan and in many Arab and Islamic countries. Despite this, all these calls have, at best, continued to be shouts in the air, ink on paper, or hopes boiling in chests. Of course, the reason is clear; namely, that every committee was content with issuing a statement calling for jihad, just as other leaders, thinkers, and writers. This means that the call for jihad has continued to lack a mechanism to implement it.

We say this while being confident that those who issued statements or wrote articles desire to be the vanguards of volunteers for jihad to expel the American aggressors and their allies from the land of Arabism and Islam, to defend fraternal Iraq against the invasion carried out by the Americans and their allies, and to carry out operations that would make the Americans and their allies consider the day they thought of invading Iraq a black day. However, those enthusiastic individuals do not know how to translate their enthusiasm into action.

Therefore, we propose and hope that our proposal will be studied quickly and implemented immediately; namely, that trade unionist and popular committees should be formed in every Arab and Islamic country, and even in every country in the world whose citizens have a desire to do so, to form regional organizations for jihad to strike at the interests of the Americans and their allies everywhere in the world. After this, coordination can be established among these regional organizations to organize collective voluntary action to carry out jihad and strike at interests.

Perhaps, the idea of the jihad and salvation army can be expanded once it has performed its holy duty of supporting Iraq and expelling the American invaders and their allies, to have this army continue and grow to achieve another objective and carry out another holy

duty; namely, to expel the Jewish and Zionist invaders from the Arab territories they occupied during the bad Arab times.

The important thing now, and as the first practical step to organize jihad and to strike at interests, a Jordanian regional committee should be formed for this purpose to begin its work immediately. Later, this committee should begin to contact other countries to generalize the idea of organization and to create the jihad mechanism. From God we seek success.

Western Bias, 'Doctored' Gulf War News Viewed

JN2201124591 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 Jan 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Scheme For Ugly War"]

[Text] One of the ominous attributes of the ongoing U.S.-led war against Iraq is the "news management" scheme conducted by President George Bush and his administration officials. The purpose is clear: To have a free hand in how to wage the battles without the constraints imposed on the U.S. administration during the Vietnam war two decades ago. The first thing that the U.S. president made clear at the outset of his mad war against Iraq and its people is that this time around, both U.S. hands would be free to conduct the war as he saw fit. He now remembers that the Vietnam war was executed with one hand tied up—meaning public opinion and the media. The second feature of Bush's war in the Gulf is to clamp down on news and visual pictures of the death and destruction that U.S. carpet bombing is causing Iraqi soldiers and civilians. The hypothesis here is that the depiction of the Vietnam war on television across the world had inhibited Washington from going all the way in their war effort then. So with this kind of "news management" in place, there has been an obvious blackout on the damage to civilian targets in Iraq. There is hardly a whisper about what the continuous blackout on the damage to civilian targets in Iraq. There is hardly a whisper about what the continuous U.S. bombing of Baghdad and other urban areas in Iraq been doing to the Iraqi people. This is in contrast to the fact that when ten of 15 Israelis are injured because of the Iraqi Scud attack a few days ago, all hell and fury broke loose across the U.S. television screens. Even U.S. and other Western pilots captured by Iraq and seen on Iraqi television have been depicted as innocent men just doing their duties when they were shot down. There is in Western circles a clear bias and doctored news dissemination on the Gulf war. Arabs should attempt to neutralise this censorship by airing and screening all they have on the damage wrought by the U.S. and other allied savage bombardment against Iraq.

Objectivity should be difficult to maintain when the other side is making it sacred duty to lie, deceive and disinform. Nevertheless, there should be every effort on our part to bring the truth to the surface. A great deal of our problem with the Americans, and to a lesser extent the Europeans, is that they have largely failed to understand us, and when they did not, their forces bombed some of us, only to hide the truth of what is really happening from their peoples. We tend to know a little about what we are up against. We wish them to know what they themselves are up to and where their leaders are leading their countries.

Bush's Call To Apply Geneva Conventions Assailed

JN2301081591 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Jan 91 pp 1, 13

[Editorial: "Why Does Bush Call For Applying the Geneva Conventions?"]

[Text] The administrations of Bush, Major, and Mitterrand, and all the parties to the unholy alliance that is involved in the barbaric aggression against Iraq call for applying the Geneva Conventions with regard to the captured pilots who raided Baghdad and the other Iraqi cities, and whose planes exploded and fell on Iraqi territory.

The Bush administration and its allies today call for applying the Geneva Conventions that they have frozen and neglected, and in fact, categorically refused to apply in their crazy wars in Vietnam, Japan, and Korea, and prevented its application in the occupied Arab territories. Moreover, they used the veto to prevent its application in the Arab territories under the Zionist occupation.

President Bush and his allies in Britain, France, and in the capitals of the unholy alliance are worried about the confessions of the captured pilots, whose planes were shot down by the Iraqis' fire, and who fell with their planes. They also protest their being shown on television. What did President Bush expect after his forces and those of his allies carried out more than 4,000 air and missile raids in four days on Baghdad and the other Iraqi cities? Did he think Iraq would not be aware of the dimensions and objectives of his hysterical aggression against Iraq? Iraq has been aware of Bush's premeditated intentions against Iraq and the Arab nation from the very beginning. Iraq is also fully aware of Bush's plan to rearrange the situation in the region within the framework of his new universal order to serve America's interests and its unilateral control over the world destinys.

Iraq knows full well that Bush is concerned not because of the confessions of the captured pilots, but because his aggressive intentions and conspiratorial schemes will be put under the spotlight, and because he fears the indignation of the American, Western, and world public opinions. President Bush has never respected and has no respect now for the Geneva Convention, international law and norms, and human rights. However, he calls for applying them to the captured pilots. He has forgotten that Iraq is known for its respect for all the international laws and conventions, including the Geneva Conventions. The Iraqi leadership's concern about saving the captured pilots and providing them with treatment confirms this fact. However, the American people and the peoples of the states that are involved in the aggression

against Iraq have a right to know the truth regarding Bush's premeditated intentions and his plots that have been hatched in advance against security, peace, and stability in the region.

Iraq proposed its 12 August initiative to avert the region, the American people, and mankind the catastrophes and woes of a devastating war. However, Bush insisted on his intransigence, continued to be captive to his false pride and arrogance, insisted on igniting war, and carried out his barbaric aggression against Iraq and its people.

Iraq has not thus far rejected any fair initiative that recognizes the full rights of Iraq and the Arabs. Iraq has not rejected any initiative to apply international legitimacy in accordance with the same standard, with the condition of linking all the region's issues together, in the forefront of which is the Palestine question. This is how unique President Saddam Husayn replied to Gorbachev's initiative, and this is the Arab reply to any other initiative.

Iraq today, after all that has taken place, speaks on behalf of the Arab nation, all honorable Muslims, and all those who love peace and justice in the world. Even if President Bush and his allies will not respond to the Iraqi conditions today, they will be forced to respond after a few days or weeks.

Efforts To Achieve Ceasefire in Gulf Reviewed

JN2201094891 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 Jan 91 pp 1,4

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter P.V. Vivekanand]

[Text] Amman—Jordan is pursuing an intense effort with all friendly countries in the Non-Aligned Movement and Third World towards achieving a ceasefire in the five-day-old assault on Iraq by U.S.-led forces in the Gulf, informed sources said Monday.

His Majesty King Husayn and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan both have appealed for a halt to the fighting and for diplomacy to replace belligerence to resolve the conflict. The King said Saturday he had not been in touch with the Iraqi leadership since the outbreak of hostilities early Thursday, but that he was issuing a call for a ceasefire "if anyone responds."

"Although it is very clear at this point that it is an almost impossible task to secure a truce in the war, Jordan cannot simply give up," said a senior official. "If the stakes are too high for many who are hurt by the conflict, they are even higher for Jordan," he added.

Information Minister Ibrahim 'Izz-al-Din said Jordan was in touch with Arab, African and non-aligned countries such as Algeria, India and Yugoslavia in its efforts to halt the hostilities in the Gulf which broke out with a massive air assault by the American-dominated multinational forces against Iraq early Thursday.

"It is unacceptable and unreasonable that no one moves to stop the war when an Arab capital is being bombed and destroyed," Mr. 'Izz-al- Din said. "Priority should be given for an end to the hostilities and then negotiations can start to arrive at a comprehensive solution to all problems of the region," he said.

The foreign minister, Tahir al-Masri, Sunday called in several ambassadors of non-aligned countries and others to request them to convey a Jordanian appeal for "all out efforts to put an immediate end to the carnage in Iraq," said an official source.

Among those called in were the ambassadors of India, China and Yugoslavia. Other contacts were continuing Monday both in Amman and at the United Nations, the source said.

"The minister expressed Jordan's horror over the massive attack, which, needless to say, is sure to have caused many, many casualties," the source told the Jordan Times.

"Jordan is not proposing any specific peace initiative," said the source who preferred anonymity. "Jordan believes that what is paramount is a ceasefire to allow for rescue and relief efforts to victims of the violence," according to the source.

The ambassadors promised to convey the request to their respective capitals and also pointed out that their positions were very much compatible with that of Jordan.

Another official conceded that there was little chance of any effort to succeed given "the American and allied armtwisting, at the U.N., of the Third World member states of the Security Council."

"As is obvious, the United States is not exactly very anxious or concerned for a ceasefire," said the official. "The feedback from the Secuity Council is mainly that there is a lot of pressure from the U.S. on all others to lay off."

Apart from the humanitarian considerations and anxiety that the war should be brought to an immediate end, Jordan is also alarmed about the potential threats posed to the regional environment, and ecological disasters that could follow, by the damages that might have been caused by the allied air assaults on Iraqi installations.

The Crown Prince, in an interview with David Frost of British TVAM on Sunday, specificaly referred to this issue. Noting that over 40,000 tonnes of explosives had been used in the allied assaults until then, he asked: "...Damage to nuclear facilities: Have they resulted in radiation? Damage to chemical facilities: Have they resulted in seepage?"

The King had repeatedly warned of an "ecological disaster and catastrophe" in the war.

U.S. officials have said air assaults on Iraq during Sunday damaged what they described as nuclear and chemical installations. In the absence of definite information coming out of Baghdad, it was difficult to verify the accuracy of the assertion.

Iraqi Missiles Said To Reconfirm 'Linkage'

JN2301090791 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 23 Jan 91 pp 1, 13

[Editorial: "Al-Husayn Missiles Reconfirm Linkage of the Region's Issues"]

[Text] During a telephone conversation with Italian Prime Minister Andreotti, President Bush spoke in detail about his readiness to resolve all the region's issues after ending the war in the Gulf. At a news conference two days ago, he also claimed that the new world order he plans to establish necessitates settling regional conflicts and hotbeds of tension. However, Bush still categorically rejects the Iraqi 12 August initiative that stipulates linkage of the region's issues. He still shows intransigence and insists on striking at the Iraqi power to force it to withdraw from Kuwait and consequently tame the Iraqi people and subjugate them to his will.

Iraq, however, which refused to relinquish any part of its rights and those of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation, has addressed President Bush and his Zionist allies with the language they understand; namely, the language of force. So, he showered Tel Aviv and the other Israeli cities with missiles, firstly stressing the serious Zionist role in the crusaders' aggression that is led by Bush against the Iraqi people and the Arab nation, and secondly, confirming linkage among all the region's issues. This is because Iraq knows very well that the Zionists have always been and are still behind igniting wars, conflicts, and conspiracies in the region, torpedoing the pillars of its security and stability, and disrupting the prospects of restoring peace to the region.

Based on this, we say that if Bush really wants to resolve the region's issues, he should first stop his aggression immediately and withdraw his forces and those of his allies and followers from the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf, and secondly, he should admit that the Kuwait issue is an Arab issue and that the Arabs are the only party concerned with resolving it, especially since they know their affairs better than anyone else. This means that Bush and his allies should withdraw from the region and stop interfering in its affairs. However, if Bush insists on continuing his aggression against Iraq, then there are difficult days awaiting his forces, those of his allies, and his foster daughter, Israel.

No matter how many sophisticated weapons Bush gives Israel, such as the Patriot or other missiles, they will not be able to protect it from the striking arm of Iraq. President Saddam promised to burn half of Israel if Bush and his allies embarked on aggression against Iraq. President Saddam has accustomed everyone to the fact that he fulfills his promises, and that he is capable of doing so. Bush's promises, however, have for a long time proven to be false and weak.

U.S. Envoy, Others Reportedly Leave for Cyprus

NC1901224491 Paris AFP in English 2146 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Beirut, Jan 19 (AFP)—The U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, Ryan Crocker, has gone to Cyprus after receiving telegraphed orders from Washington to leave immediately, a witness to the cable said here Saturday.

The ambassador and three other diplomats took a helicopter from the chancellery at 'Awkar, north of the capital, which is under Lebanese and Syrian army control, after the message arrived on Friday, said a witness who saw the message.

The cable urged the ambassador to "depart immediately" and warned Washington "is no longer in a position to control the situation in Arab and Muslim countries following developments in the Gulf," the witness said.

The message said a helicopter was arriving from Larnaca, Cyprus, and would stay on the ground in Lebanon for just two minutes with its engines running while the ambassador boarded.

The Lebanese Foreign Ministry was not notified of the departure, sources said.

But a U.S. diplomat who stayed behind said threats prompted the ambassador's sudden flight. "His departure has been justified by threats," the diplomat said, but refused to elaborate.

Security measures at the U.S. Embassy had recently been strengthened by the construction of three watchtowers and more rows of barbed wire.

Security sources said the British Embassy had received similar threats and that protection measures there had been increased.

Zayd Wahbah, political head in Lebanon of Fatah, the main component of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, warned Wednesday that Palestinian fighters were ready to strike U.S. and British interests throughout the world if Iraq was attacked.

A young Lebanese man was arrested on Thursday carrying a home-made bomb near a French diplomatic building in Beirut.

French diplomats have not reported any threats nor stepped up security.

The flight of Mr. Crocker, who arrived in Lebanon after the surrender of Christian leader General Michel 'Awn on October 13, coincided with pro-Iraqi protests across the country by tens of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians.

AL-AHRAM Editor Cited on Cease-Fire Efforts

NC2101192191 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] AL-AHRAM Editor in Chief Ibrahim Nafi', who is close to the Egyptian president, commented on the situation in the Gulf by saying that Egypt is making political and diplomatic efforts with various Arab, regional, and international circles to save Iraq, its people, and armed forces.

He noted that Egypt is seeking a cease-fire for a limited period, not exceeding a few days, to bring about the Iraqi withdrawal and deploy Arab forces in Kuwait.

Reaction to Gulf War Results in Bombings

Bomb Near French Embassy

NC2301071491 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0628 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] As reaction to the Gulf war continues in Lebanon, a bundle of dynamite exploded near the French Embassy in Clemenceau at 1930 yesterday. Damage was restricted to material lossses.

This explosion is the fourth strike against Western interests in Lebanon in response to the allied bombardment of Iraq.

Booby Trap Near Bank

NC2301094091 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0920 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] The Gulf war continues to reflect on the Lebanese situation. A booby trap exploded at 0600 today outside the Beirut- Riyadh Bank in Corniche al-Mazra'ah, opposite the Peugeot Company.

Only material damage was reported.

French Bank Bombed, Guard Killed

NC2301111991 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1020 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] As part of the attacks against foreign institutions in Lebanon, two explosions took place last night. The first was at the entrance of the Beirut-Riyadh Bank branch in western Beirut. The second explosion, at the French bank branch in Ba'labakk, resulted in the death of one of the guards outside the bank.

AL-AHRAM Editor Cited on Cease-Fire Efforts

NC2101192191 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] AL-AHRAM Editor in Chief Ibrahim Nafi', who is close to the Egyptian president, commented on the situation in the Gulf by saying that Egypt is making political and diplomatic efforts with various Arab, regional, and international circles to save Iraq, its people, and armed forces.

He noted that Egypt is seeking a cease-fire for a limited period, not exceeding a few days, to bring about the Iraqi withdrawal and deploy Arab forces in Kuwait.

Patriot Missiles in Israel 'Extreme Concern'

NC2201154391 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpts] Syria is holding a series of intensive contacts, meetings, and consultations to salvage what can be salvaged of Iraqi, Kuwaiti, and Arab interests. These moves cover several Arab, regional, and international quarters, including Iran, where a high-level Syrian envoy will visit today. [passage omitted]

The [Lebanese newspaper] AL-DIYAR has reported that President al-Asad contacted Jordanian King Husayn and asked him to get in touch immediately with the Iraqi president to discuss an end to the war on the basis of implementing the UN resolutions. In return, President al-Asad will guarantee, once Iraq withdraws from Kuwait, that Iraq will not come under attack by the United States or its allied troops. Al-Asad pointed out in his contact with King Husayn that, should he receive a positive response from the Iraqi president, he will undertake immediate efforts with international parties, particularly the Soviet Union and some European countries, to launch a peace initiative consisting of the above guarantees.

It was understood that King Husayn told President al-Asad of the difficulty in getting through to President Saddam Husayn. However, he said he would try to secure such contact as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, Damascus has voiced extreme concern over the U.S. decision to send Patriot antimissile batteries to Israel, since this upsets the military equation in the region. It was understood that a declaration to that effect would be announced soon by Damascus and that the Syrian leadership will hasten to contact the U.S. Administration to seek clarification on the future of these missiles once the Gulf war is over and to underscore Syria's determination that Washington should withdraw all these batteries once the urgent need for them no longer exists. [passage omitted]

Ministry Denies Statement on Israeli Self-Defense

NC2301140391 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1336 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has stated the following:

Israeli Radio cited the French newspaper LE MONDE as reporting that, during his meeting with Western ambassadors, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' said that Israel has the right to defend itself and that Syria would not retaliate in the event of Israel launching a counteroffense against Iraq.

The Foreign Ministry wishes to reiterate that such an idea was not raised during Minister al-Shar's meeting with the ambassadors.

Jordan Accused of 'Posturing' Over Iraq Issue

NC2101091091 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0810 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Damascus, 21 Jan (SANA)—The newspaper TISHRIN expressed its surprise and astonishment over many positions and policies in the Arab arena, particularly the shedding of crocodile tears over Iraq, its situation and state of affairs, and claims of concern for it. In an article today, the paper says that certain questions have arisen regarding the policy that concentrated on embroiling Iraq in all issues and problems, resulting in the catastrophic and destructive war against the Iraqi people, Army, and resources.

In this respect, TISHRIN notes the policy being pursued by Jordan and says that this policy, which claims concern for Iraq, embroiled the Iraqi rulers in the current crisis by publicizing the enormity of Iraqi military capabilities and fanning Saddam's conceit, thus prompting him to refuse to yield to the Arab and international community's will and escalate matters to the point of catastrophe.

TISHRIN recalls that those who contributed to prolonging the Iraq-Iran war under the pretext of concern for Iraq and propagated hollow, resounding slogans are the same people who cast doubt on Syria's position and gloated over its pan-Arab stand, particularly when it defended Lebanon and the Arab nation against the Israeli invasion of 1982. Concluding its article, the paper says that these people's posturing is cropping up again, and they are boasting anew about their false concern for Iraq and the Palestinian issue at a time when Iraq is being slaughtered and destroyed as a result of Saddam's reckless policy and his expansion of the scope of his destructive war in the region.

'Jordanian Media' Called Saddam's 'Accomplice'

NC2201173491 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Some Jordanian media quarters have continued a deliberate, yet exposed campaign to falsify facts and realities. In this context, these quarters have pursued a large-scale, deceptive campaign to justify the disaster that has befallen the Iraqi people as a result of the Baghdad ruler's gambling, his reckless policies, and his persistence in occupying Kuwait and proceeding with the senseless, destructive war—a war that has touched off untold suffering, tribulations, and horror whose high and horrendous cost the Iraqi people are paying with the blood of their sons, their property, and their daily lives.

In the same way they applauded the eight-year fruitless war against Iran, and their talk at the time about the eastern gate of the Arab homeland, these quarters are today playing the same game and encouraging the Baghdad ruler to pursue his adventurism and expose the Iraqi people to further destruction and death.

The truth, which everybody knows, however, is that these quarters played a major subversive role throughout the past years. For, these quarters played an effective role in embroiling Saddam Husayn in the crime of invading Iran. Moreover, while Syria, motivated by brotherly pan-Arab considerations, was making painstaking efforts to prevent the conflagration of the Iraqi-Iranian war and its expansion, the suspect Jordanian quarters were adding fuel to the fire and claiming to defend the eastern gate of the Arab homeland—a gate that has never been threatened by anyone, and not the least by Iran. In fact, Iran at the time was declaring publicly its unlimited support for the Palestine question, its readiness to commit the entire Iranian army to the confrontation, and its readiness to participate in liberating Palestine. Perhaps when he admitted his big mistake of invading Iran, returned to this Muslim country its occupied territories, and revived once again the Algiers agreements that he had earlier violated, the Baghdad ruler himself revealed the falsehood of the suspect Jordanian quarters and exposed their false claims for eight years. Thus, Saddam returned to square one and to the pre-war status. Had he heeded at the time Syria's honest, sincere calls, he could have spared Iran and Iraq a million killed, and heavy losses in property put at hundreds of millions of dollars. Today, the suspect Jordanian quarters are playing the same tune. The solid facts on the ground, however, and the tribulations and horrors the Iraqi people are experiencing unmask the false claims of these quarters. In addition, we would like to stress a point here; namely, had Saddam Husayn responded to leader al-Asad's call and to Syria's sincere pan-Arab efforts, he could have spared the Iraqi people all this bloodshed and destruction, and the situation would certainly not be as it is now: a mad, pointless war that is wreaking havoc with everything. And why is that? Just because Saddam insists on occupying Kuwait, while Kuwait is an Arab country, an Arab League and UN member and has the right to life and freedom.

The Jordanian quarters that are playing up Saddam's arrogance and nurturing his megalomania are an accomplice to the crime. For these quarters are encouraging him to pursue his unilateral challenge to the world, instead of advising him to heed the voice of reason and wisdom, to respond to the call of duty and conscience, and to defuse the destructive war by disgorging Kuwait. Those who live near and far know that the Arab-Israeli conflict is a fateful conflict, and that facing the Zionist enemy successfully requires pooling all Arab resources, and not wasting them on marginal battles. So, where does Saddam stand today with regard to the Arab buildup and the confrontation line? Where does he stand today with regard to the efforts of Arab solidarity? The display of firing a few missiles at Israel, which caused more noise than destruction, will not change anything; in fact, this action was used as a pretext to provide Israel with the most sophisticated antimissile weapons, and to tip the scales of power more and more in favor of the enemy. So, how will the tendentious quarters in Jordan face this new reality?

Resounding, high-sounding harangues have never liberated a single inch of our Arab territory. On the contrary, they have always been used by the enemy as a pretext to extort more Western assistance. This is what happened yesterday; this is also what is happening today, while we see further Arab fragmentation and the destruction of Iraq's capabilities as a result of mistaken policies and stands. Pan-Arab common sense suggests that Iraq and Kuwait and all the Gulf countries should stand in one line with Syria, which is standing up to Zionist arrogance and doing all that it can to prevent it from achieving its ambitions in the region.

Assembly Speaker Replies to Jordanian Counterpart

NC2301003191 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1857 GMT 22 Jan 91

["Text" of letter from Syrian People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah to Jordanian House of Representatives Speaker 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat in reply to 19 January cable]

[Text] Respected Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. God's blessings and peace be upon you.

The Peoples's Assembly members and I received your cable on events in the Gulf on 19 January 1991. While thanking you for your initiative and the brotherly and pan-Arab sentiments in regard to Syria and its pan-Arab role in defending the nation and its fateful issues, I would like to reiterate to you that Syria will continue to be true to its pan-Arab mission, eager to preserve the Arab nation's interests, and determined to shoulder its responsibilities today as it has in the past and as it will continue to be in the future.

What is taking place today hurts the Arab nation, dissipates its resources, fragments and weakens its body, and increases the strength of its enemies. The effects of these events will continue to shake future generations for several decades. What makes it more bitter and painful is that the destruction to people, resources, and property could have been avoided and an asset could have been spared for the entire Arab nation. We are certain that had the Iraqi Government made an objective assessment of the situation, it would not have undertaken the invasion of Kuwait. Had it assessed the repercussions and seriously looked into the dangers that are besetting Iraq and the region because of its continuing occupation of Kuwait, the Iraqi Government would have taken the measure that any government that cares for the fate of its people and homeland should take.

While discussing this tragedy, I would like to point out that examining any development in isolation of what preceded it, what caused it, and what it could cause, makes it impossible to find a solution to save the nation from a dark and grave future. Therefore, from our viewpoint, the problem did not begin with the implementation of UN Resolution No. 678 permitting the use of force to compel the Iraqi forces to leave Kuwait. Nor

did it begin on 2 August when the Iraqi forces invaded Kuwait, undermined the State of Kuwait, and expelled its Arab people, along with hundreds of thousands of other Arabs and foreigners. The problem began when the Iraqi Government launched a war against the Islamic Republic of Iran with the aim of ending the Islamic revolution in this Muslim country, a revolution that was a spark of light in the total Islamic and Arab darkness. This war was coupled with a media campaign against the Islamic revolution with the aim of dismembering the Muslims and reviving religious differences.

This war was called the war to defend the eastern gate of the Arab nation against the Persian Magians and the forces of darkness. A campaign was launched against Muslim Iran and its leadership in which the most slanderous language was used. The campaign concentrated on the leader of the Islamic revolution, the late Imam Khomeyni. Those who participated in this campaign did not spare Syria. This is because it was only natural that Syria, with its responsibilities, realized the aims of this war and its threat to the Arabs and Muslims. From the first day, Syria demanded a halt to this war, asked for its condemnation, and defended Iran at Arab and world forums.

From the beginning, Syria's position was that this war would destroy the resources of Iran, Iraq, and the Gulf states, as well as distract attention from the central Arab-Israeli conflict. Syria's position was that far from advancing Iraq's interests, the war launched by Iraq promoted the interests of some foreign forces that realized the risks to their interests the Islamic revolution entailed. Our position was that the emergence of the Islamic revolution in Iran had created a unique opportunity in the modern history of the region for a regional cooperation system to help the Arabs and reverse the situation in the shah's era when Iran was hostile to the Arabs and their decisionmaking.

Our position was not just to promote Iranian interests alone, concerned as we were for our relations with Iran. Our position was primarily prompted by our concern for the interests and future of Iraq as well as for its responsibilities as an Arab country when the Arab nation was facing big challenges. We were convinced that Iraq had fallen in the trap of this war in which it was embroiled with the objective of destroying the two countries.

Ten years after the war, the Iraqi president sent a letter to the Iranian president in which he said that the war between the two states was a conspiracy to advance the interests of the enemies of the Muslims—the same terms we had used in describing this war 10 years ago. It is saddening that this perception came after 10 years during which Iraq and Iran lost 1 million of their children and sustained losses of approximately $600 billion which, properly invested, would have left the Islamic world without any poor or oppressed people. We were immensely pleased over the termination of the war and the contacts between the governments of the two countries a few months before the invasion of Kuwait. At the same time, intensive efforts were being made by some brotherly Arabs, including Syria, to contain Arab differences and rectify the Arab state of affairs as well as mobilize Arab resources to tackle the dangers threatening pan-Arab security led by the Zionist danger. We had come to hope that the Iraqi leadership would learn the necessary lessons from the war with Iran at a time when the Arab nation most needed joint Arab action and a common Arab stand and concentrated efforts to serve our cause in our principal dispute with Israel. At that time, calls began to be heard in the Arab world for serious and responsible action to formulate an Arab strategy, given the mounting threat of the emergence of a Greater Israel, especially after the floodgates of Jewish immigration to Palestine were opened, and given the changes that have swept the world. Iraq, Jordan, and the PLO then called for a summit in Baghdad, the agenda of which was the following:

First, defending pan-Arab security. Second, confronting Israeli threats, and third, addressing world changes. The conference was held and agreement was reached that another summit would be held in Cairo on 22 November 1990. Barely two months after the summit convened in the name of pan-Arab security, the world was treated to the shock of Iraq destroying, occupying, and annexing another Arab country.

I do not want to go into the reasons advanced by the Iraqi Government for invading Kuwait, out of our conviction that Iraq is as much a victim of this invasion as is Kuwait, and that the Iraqi Government has fallen into a trap like the one set for it in its war with Iran. This serious action cannot be justified on any grounds. Historical grounds do not make a good case, since if such a claim could do for a justification, many countries in the Arab world would have to cease to exist, because they were carved out from other states by imperialism in recent history. Nor does the claim that Kuwait had conspired against Iraq and annexed Iraqi territory justify such an invasion.

It is truly regrettable that those who helped involve Iraq in the war with Iran are now appearing as though they are eager to safeguard Iraq, while in effect they are drowning it in more involvement.

We have rejected such a serious act out of the following principles and considerations:

First, Syria cannot accept the principle of invasion and annexation. Syria is a state that rejects devastation and annexation on the part of the Israeli enemy. Part of its population was driven out of the land. If Syria accepts such a principle, it will thus give the Israeli enemy all kinds of justifications, and hence the logic governing its efforts to restore its land and confront the expansion- and annexation-oriented Zionist theory will collapse.

Second, being a victim of the Israeli aggression, Syria cannot stand on the side of the aggressor against another aggression, be it in or outside the Arab homeland.

Third, the use of force to resolve Arab differences is bound to shatter all Arab and international charters and agreements. If we accept the application of this approach to a dispute between two Arab countries, the country that applied such an approach might later be subjected to an attack by a non-Arab country. Furthermore, the use of force is bound to cause discord among Arabs, squander Arab energies, threaten Arab unity, and sever the pan-Arab ties linking its sons. Hence, the Iraqi Government should have taken its differences with brother Arabs to Arab institutions to resolve them.

Fourth, all Arabs realize the danger involved in Jewish immigration. They are also aware of the implications of talk about the substitute homeland in Jordan and the complex repercussions that are bound to threaten the homeland and the nation. This awareness prompts us to stress the need for action to contain Arab differences, rather than create new ones.

Fifth, before the Baghdad summit last May, the Iraqi Government raised the issue of confronting the Israeli challenge. In more than one speech, the Iraqi president spoke about the liberation of Palestine and about burning Israel. We were surprised by the devastation of Kuwait. This runs contrary to the principle of focusing primary efforts [words indistinct].

Sixth, the invasion of an Arab state by another Arab state is bound to prompt small states to seek protection. If these states resort to Arab countries and find protection there, the result may be inter-Arab wars that would lead the Arabs to self-destruction. If this happens, Israel will be the only remaining force and thus it will impose its decisions and hegemony. If these states seek protection from foreign states, new ties will be established and the ties linking the members of the Arab nation will disintegrate. Hence, the principle of invasion involves a major risk for the entire nation.

Seventh, the present day world cannot accept the principle of devastation and annexation, particularly in the areas of the world most critical to international peace and security.

Acting upon these principles and considerations, Syria adopted a clear-cut stand on the devastation process. Syria's stand was not only dictated by its eagerness to protect Kuwait as a sister country, or to protect the sister Gulf countries, but rather out of concern for the brother Iraqi people and state. We all belong to a nation that has one destiny and has the same interests.

We were deeply concerned for Iraq, because Kuwait has turned into a bomb deeply embedded in Iraq. This bomb can go off any moment. Fear for Iraq and its future, as well as for the nation and its future, and our insistence on the principles I have noted, prompted us to adopt a clear-cut policy based on bringing about Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and thus protect the region against the threats facing it at present. We made strenuous efforts in that connection. We were, and we still are convinced, that protecting Iraq against the dangers of an explosion rests in the hands of the Iraqi Government. The Iraqi Government cannot leave the Kuwaiti bomb planted in the chest of the Iraqis forever without this bomb going off.

The Iraqi Government's big error was its recourse to force instead of reason. It does not realize that the use of force instead of reason is destructive to force and to the one who uses it. It is useful here to refer to certain voices raised as if they were concerned with Iraq's wellbeing. Some of them are motivated by good intentions but are governed by a simplistic outlook. Others are determined to destroy Iraq by driving it to further involvement and closing the doors to the chances of emerging from this predicament. Those who care about our people in Iraq, and Iraq's army and capabilities, should have raised their voices against the Iraqi Government, warning it that it did not have the right to make decisions whose effects went beyond Iraq and touched the entire Arab nation. These people should have told the Iraqi Government: You have taken the wrong course. They should have sought to correct the error, not encouraged to make it even bigger.

Does the Iraqi Government have the right to make decisions affecting the destiny of the entire nation and to tell others to follow it and thus contribute to the destruction of the nation and the homeland? Can't we see the gains Israel has made as a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait? The antimissile defense network that Israel obtained is the least of these gains. Nonetheless, it is very dangerous to the Arab nation's defense strategies. In return for what did Israel obtain this network? Was it not in return for a transient media brouhaha that all these gains were offered to the Zionist enemy?

If the Iraqi Government is serious about facing the Israeli enemy, does this seriousness take the form of placing the Iraqi Army in Kuwait and firing a few missiles at Palestine so that Israel can reap the benefit? It is an objectively accepted fact that when reason and logic are not used, nations pay dearly for their leaders' mistakes.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to assert to you that there is not one person in Syria who is not pained and worried about Iraq and our people in that dear country which is so close to our hearts. For this reason, President Hafiz al-Asad made an initiative to salvage the situation. He was spurred by his love of Iraq and anxiety over the fate of our people there in light of the great and destructive perils threatening them. He addressed a message to President Saddam Husayn on 12 January in which he spoke with a clear perception of the danger and a sincere feeling toward our fraternal people, concern for Iraq and its pan-Arab role. The president pledged in the message that Syria would support Iraq with all its capabilities and fight alongside it if it were subjected to an aggression after withdrawing from Kuwait.

Syria extended a tender, loving, and fraternal hand to Iraq in its darkest times in order to cooperate and to save the

entire nation from destruction. The Syrians and all sincere Arabs rejoiced when they listened to President Hafiz al-Asad's message in which pan-Arab considerations were placed above any other. What was the outcome?

We were surprised by a reply on 13 January rejecting the hand of fraternity, love, and amity. At that time we realized that the Iraqi leadership was determined to pursue its policy with all its inherent destructive dangers to Iraq, its people, and the entire Arab nation. One small hope remains to us: namely, that the brothers in Baghdad will make the appropriate decision to preserve Iraq. No one else is capable of making this decision.

The events that have so far taken place are very dangerous and have come as no surprise to anyone because everyone knew that the natural outcome of the continued occupation of Kuwait would be the outbreak of military operations.

The only thing that all of us can do is to make efforts to persuade the Iraqi Government to withdraw from Kuwait because that is bound to spare Iraq and the Arab nation further suffering and destruction the effects of which will remain in our hearts and minds for decades.

Waiting for months or years until some of us say that Syria was right in its assessment as it was right when war was waged on Iran 10 years ago will be a matter of recording the facts. It will not, however, undo the great damage to the nation.

The pledge made by President Hafiz al-Asad is that Syria will support Iraq and remain by its side if the Iraqi Government makes a decision to save Iraq and withdraw from Kuwait.

We hope that all efforts will be channelled in this direction because events are moving rapidly. Iraq needs saving, not statements of support or incitement.

Venerable brother, I thank you for your initiative and affirm to you our willingness to cooperate for the good of our nation and to unite its capabilities to confront the dangers it faces. I wish you health and happiness and pray God Almighty will grant us all success and guide us to the path that brings good to the nation and the homeland. Peace and the blessings of God be upon you.

Damascus, 22 January 1991.

[Signed] 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, speaker of the Syrian Arab Republic's National Assembly.

Radio Says War To Free Kuwait, Not Palestine

NC2001161591 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Esteemed listeners: In the midst of all the violence, destruction, killing, and suffering being witnessed in the Gulf, there is still room for a question: What do the Iraqi rulers really want? What are their calculations in the midst of this inferno which has engulfed Iraq and blocked out every ray of light since the dawn of 16 January? In light of the balance of power of which we and they are aware, can Iraq's leaders truly be seeking victory in the Gulf war and preparing to celebrate the defeat of the entire world at their hands? Moreover, do the Baghdad rulers think that their falsehood, which elicited support from no corner of the Arab homeland and the world in the more than five months in which the world was searching for peace, will now win the support of the Arabs and the world to help them in the maelstrom of war, whatever its duration? Do the Iraqi rulers think that, under the conditions they are facing, they will be able to bring about the earthquake they are looking for among the Arabs by randomly firing some missiles at Israel and that they will thus be able to convince the Arabs that what is happening in the Gulf today is the war of liberating Palestine, and not the war of liberating Kuwait? Did they hope the Arabs would change their stands and line up behind the banners of the Iraqi regime to champion it over Kuwait and our brothers in the Gulf?

If the Baghdad rulers were truly concerned about Palestine and its liberation, why then was Kuwait their first target and why did they take on the whole world in a dog-eat-dog war? Israel only entered the picture later, with the show of missiles, a show which we, the Iraqis, and the Arabs know the meaning, aims, and directions of. Moreover, who or what prevented the leaders of Iraq from liberating Palestine before now, especially as they possess all the hardware necessary to defeat the entire world, all this determination to wage war, and all this concern about the cause of Palestine? Had we not told the Iraqi leaders over and over, when they were wasting their resources and the resources of Islamic Iran during the eight-year war, that priority should always be given to Palestine and the cause of Palestine and that the correct stand mandates that Iraq should save its resources and hardware, along with Iran's resources and hardware, so that the eastern front can be integrated and so that we can together wage the battle of honor, a battle from which they shied away when we waged it alone in 1982, alongside the Palestinian and Lebanese brothers on the soil of Lebanon? Where were the missiles of the rulers of Baghdad at that time and at which fronts were they directed? Where was the Baghdad rulers' concern for Palestine and for the people of Palestine at that time? Moreover, by what logic and under what pretext will the Arabs accept from the Baghdad rulers that false call, which they are propagating about their determination to liberate an occupied Arab territory while they themselves are occupying an Arab land, displacing its kinsfolk, and pillaging all its wealth?

Is it not yet time for the rulers of Iraq to wake up and rethink their calculations in word and deed, after all the harm done to Iraq, and after the current situation caused by playing on the Arabs' feelings toward Palestine and the cause of Palestine?

We honestly hope that a miracle will happen and that the Iraqi rulers will be freed from their illusions and will

declare and implement a withdrawal from Kuwait so that this fierce war will stop and this suffocating burden be lifted from the shoulders of our brother Iraqis, who are suffering as no people ever suffered before. Will the leaders of Iraq do it?

Muslim Brotherhood Calls for Al-Asad's Overthrow

NC2301131691 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] The banned Syrian Muslim Brotherhood yesterday issued a statement in Amman calling for the overthrow of the Hafiz al-Asad regime because of its plots against Iraq and its siding with the enemies of Iraq and the Arab people. The statement, which was disseminated by AFP in Amman, calls on the sons of the Syrian people to rise up as heroes and restore Syria to its national unity, pan-Arab stands, and Islamic struggle.

The statement says: The time has come to cleanse the soil of Damascus and rid it from the disgraceful regime that rose to power through treachery and the surrender of the stronghold in the Golan Heights.

The statements says that there are two sides in the Gulf war: the traitors who stand beside the Zionist entity and the United States of America, chief among whom is Hafiz al-Asad, and those who support struggling and steadfast Iraq and join all the Muslim and Arab strugglers.

India

Demonstration Held At U.S. Consulate in Madras

BK2201161291 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, students of Jammu University today took out an antiwar procession and marched to the United Nations Observers Group office in Jammu. They handed over a memorandum to the office, protesting against the Gulf war.

In Tamil Nadu, 12 persons were injured when police made a lathi [baton] charge this morning to disperse a group of radical youths, demonstrating in front of the U.S. Consulate in Madras. They were protesting against U.S. action in Iraq.

Demonstrators Arrested

BK2201125891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1248 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 22 (AFP)—Some 85 demonstrators were arrested in India Tuesday after student protests against the Gulf war turned violent here and in southern Madras City, witnesses and news reports said.

Nearly 50 people were bundled into police vans and taken away in the capital after about 100 left-wing students and teachers tried to storm the American Centre in the capital, shouting slogans against U.S. President George Bush.

Policemen baton charged the group, injuring at least one student in the head, and other protestors immediately squatted on a busy road waving placards, blocking traffic for almost 30 minutes.

"We are not here to condone Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, but why has not Washington waged war for the independence of Palestine?" asked a student leader in an impromptu speech before he and the others were arrested.

Several other students managed to evade arrest by mingling with the hundreds of people watching the demonstration, witnesses said.

Anti-U.S. protests were also reported from Madras, in the extreme south, and in Jammu, winter capital of Northern Kashmir State.

In Madras, seven policemen and five demonstrators were injured in violence after Maoist students clashed with police outside the U.S. consulate, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

Police chased away the students, who were shouting slogans against the U.S. president, with batons after being pelted with stones, the news agency said. Thirty-five students were later arrested.

In Jammu, an estimated 400 university students screaming slogans like "down with war" and "George Bush, down, down" marched to the local United Nations office, demanding a ceasefire in the Gulf, PTI said.

The demonstrators, many of whom were on motorcycles, submitted a memorandum to the U.N. office.

The U.N. maintains observers in Kashmir, which is disputed by Pakistan.

India, once a close ally of Baghdad, has demanded a halt to fighting in the Gulf, but urged Iraq to pull out of Kuwait.

Attack on Iraq Nuclear, Chemical Plants Assailed

BK2101062591 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0250 GMT 21 Jan 91

["Special Commentary" on the Gulf war by C. Rajamohan of the Institute of Defense Studies and Analysis]

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has not been successful in trapping Israel into the Gulf War. One of his major objectives has been to draw Israel in and transform the political character of the war. Israel has responded coolly to the missile challenge posed by Iraq. But Mr. Saddam Husayn is unlikely to give up his efforts to widen the war. What are his options? One, he could continue the missile attacks, hoping it would produce the desired response at some point. Second, he could launch an aerial attack directly on Israel. Before the war started, the chief of the Iraqi Air Force had claimed that Iraqi pilots were ready to launch suicide attacks. It remains to be seen if this promise can be made good. The third option would be to launch terrorist attacks on Western and Israeli interests worldwide.

There has been a ground swell of popular sympathy for Saddam Husayn in the Arab and Muslim world stretching from the Maghreb to Bangladesh. But the key Arab governments in the American-led coalition have tried to squelch apprehensions that would desert the coalition. Egypt has claimed it would not boycott even if Israel joins the war. Syria has rejected the Iraqi argument that the current struggle is between Arab nationalism and America. Iran, which has stayed neutral in the conflict, has rejected the notion that the war is between Islam and infidels. How long these positions will be sustained remains to be seen.

While Baghdad has not been successful in splitting the American-led coalition by widening the war, Washington has been successful in opening the so-called second front in Turkey. Although the United States started using Turkish bases from the second day onwards, the attacks from Turkish bases have intensified since yesterday. Turkish role in the war has been a controversial domestic issue. The Turkish parliament had earlier permitted the use of its facilities only for logistic and humanitarian purposes. But it has now been coaxed into letting the Americans use these bases for the aerial bombardment of Iraq. It has also allowed the government the discretion to send Turkish troops into Iraq.

Turkey's increased involvement into the war raises a number of issues. Turkey is the successor state of the Ottoman Empire which ruled much of the Arab world until the First World War. Turkish-Arab relations have always been uneasy, and there are apprehensions in the Arab world of a revival of Turkish domination. Turkey is the only Muslim member country of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO. The secretary general of NATO, Mr. Manfred Worner, has said that if Iraq attacks Turkey it will be interpreted as an attack on NATO. Although most countries in NATO are individually participating in the American-led multinational force, NATO is now threatening to come to the conflict as a military alliance.

Since the early eighties, NATO has been attempting to give itself the security role in the Third World. The Gulf war could be a good pretext to transform NATO from being an alliance of the West against the Soviet bloc into one directed at the South.

The American attack on the Iraqi nuclear and chemical facilities launched last night raises a number of issues. Is the objective of eliminating Iraqi nuclear and chemical facilities being pursued by the United States consistent with the objectives outlined by the United Nations in giving its sanctions for use of force? The current international law does not prohibit any state from possessing chemical weapons or their use in retaliation. Iraq is also a signatory to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. In 1981, Israel had destroyed the Iraqi reactor in a bombing raid. Now the U.S. has done it again. The Arab public opinion is bound to see this as an attempt to disarm Iraq while letting Israel keep its nuclear arsenal. The Gulf War thus has further exposed the utter hypocrisy of the nonproliferation regime. The destruction of nuclear facilities also raises the issue [of] sparing dangerous installations in any conflict. In the long term, the American determination to impose chemical and nuclear disarmament on the Arabs while retaining for itself the right to use nuclear weapons and allowing the selective proliferation to friends of the West like Israel would have dangerous consequences.

Kashmir Militants To Step Up Separatist Drive

BK2201153891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1526 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Jammu, India, Jan 22 (AFP)—Three Moslem guerrilla groups vowed in a joint statement Tuesday to step up their bloody separatist campaign in the north Indian state of Kashmir.

In a statement issued simultaneously here and in Srinagar, the groups said their ultimate aim was to secede the northern state, bordering Pakistan, and establish an Islamic Republic.

It was signed by representatives of the fundamentalist Hizbul-Mujahidin, Mujahid Jehad Council and Tehreki-Jehad-Islami, which are known here to be pro-Pakistan.

The three groups said: "Unless and until the Indian Government concedes our demand to give the right of self-determination (to Kashmiris), we will not give up our current armed struggle but further intensify it."

A spokesman said in a telephone interview that Kashmir's Moslems, who constitute a majority in the state, fully supported the violent separatist campaign.

"We are nearing our goal," said Ahsan Dar of the Hizb-ul-Mujahidin, the strongest of the three groups. "Indian laws are not operative in the Kashmir Valley."

Unlike the dominant Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), which says its campaign is for a free Kashmir, most other Moslem rebel groups in the state favour union with Pakistan.

India accuses Pakistan, which disputes Kashmir's 1947 accession to New Delhi, of arming Kashmiri separatists. Islamabad denies the charge but has said it offers diplomatic support to the guerrillas.

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over Kashmir, the northern third of which is under Pakistani control.

External Affairs Minister Departs for Belgrade

BK2201081891 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] A major initiative by the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] to restore peace in the Gulf is now gaining momentum. The external affairs minister, Mr. V.C. Shukla, left for Belgrade last night. A group of NAM foreign ministers are scheduled to meet in the Yugoslav capital. Deputy Minister for External Affairs Mr. Digvijay Singh is leaving for Zimbabwe, Jordan, and Algeria for consultations. The UN secretary general, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, had earlier appealed to Yugoslavia, the current chairman of the movement, to continue NAM peace efforts. Meanwhile, Yemen has called upon the Security Council to pass a resolution for a cease-fire in the Gulf. The appeal followed a meeting of the Yemeni Presidential Council.

Reportage on Yugoslavia Visit

WA2301133991

For reportage on the visit to Yugoslavia by Vidhya Charan Shukla, minister of external affairs, including reports on his talks with Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, please see the Yugoslavia section of the 23 January East Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Iran

Pakistani Prime Minister Arrives for Talks

Rafsanjani, Sharif Meet

LD2201170891 Tehran IRIB Television Network in Persian 1600 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Pakistani Prime Minister Mr. Nawaz Sharif was received this afternoon by Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president of the republic. They exchanged views on the latest developments in the Persian Gulf region and the expansion of relations between Iran and Pakistan.

Addressing the Pakistani prime minister during the meeting, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized that under existing conditions Muslims expect closer cooperation among Islamic countries. He also said: Your swift action in confronting the terrorists who were intent on disrupting relations between Iran and Pakistan was very useful; it had a very desirable impact on our people. The interests of the two countries require that we continue to make efforts to expand our ties.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani also placed emphasis on strengthening tripartite cooperation between Iran, Pakistan, and Turkey. He added: We are interested in expanding these ties and in making the economic cooperation organization more active.

On the need for closer cooperation betwen Iran and Pakistan in solving the problem of Afghanistan, the president said: We believe that we should not wait for others to solve the problem of the suffering Afghan nation. We must cooperate to take effective measures together as soon as possible in the interests of the region and Afghanistan. He also stressed the need for solving the problem of the Muslim people of Kashmir.

Continuing his remarks, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed concern over the Persian Gulf crisis. he said: It is imperative that we step up our efforts to put an end to the sorry state of affairs in the region as soon as possible. This is the legitimate expectation of the people of the region and the Muslims of the world.

Mr. Nawaz Sharif termed the martyrdom of Ganji a bitter and unpalatable event for the Iranian and Pakistani nations. He said: We deeply regret that unhappy event and thank God that the perpetrators were arrested. We are determined to wage a serious campaign against such crimes and their roots.

The prime minister of Pakistan added: We are in agreement with the view of your excellency on bilateral issues and the problems of the region and the Persian Gulf crisis. We feel that, because of the mistake of a single individual, the people of Iraq are under the most serious pressures. Meanwhile, Israel and the enemies of Islam are profiting from the crisis. We hope the conspiracy of America and Israel in this region meets with failure.

Referring to the timely initiative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on calling for the meeting of the Islamic Conference, the Pakistani prime minister added: We support your excellency's initiative. We believe we must put an end to this crisis through the help of all the Islamic countries and in the interests of the Islamic ummah. He also presented best greetings and respects from the Pakistani president. He informed Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani of the official invitation of Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, president of Pakistan, to him to make a state visit to Pakistan. Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani accepted the invitation.

Sharif Addresses Banquet

BK2301081791 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has expressed the hope that peace can be restored in the Gulf without any further destruction. He said this in Tehran last night while addressing a banquet given in his honor by President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. He hailed Iran's principled stand on the Gulf crisis and welcomed the mutual intentions of both countries to end the Gulf war. He said the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait will help start the process of restoring peace and in this the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] can play its role. In such a situation, the regional countries can establish peace and stability in the region, as well as assure Kuwait's security. He added that Pakistan supports the principles of equality, sovereignty, and regional security, and opposes the use of force between countries.

The prime minister said that on the basis of these principles, he is making efforts to end the bloodshed in the region because the Muslim ummah is encountering losses. He said if war continues it will destroy the Muslim's political, economic, as well as military power. Due to Iraq's attack on Kuwait and its rejection of UN Security Council resolutions, war has broken out and the Muslims have fallen prey to controversies, which we express deep concern over. Nawaz Sharif remarked that before the war broke out, Pakistan like Iran made every effort to find a peaceful solution to the crisis. He added that he was optimistic that Kuwait's sovereignty and independence would be restored but he expressed deep sorrow over the failure of efforts and over the continuation of the grave situation in Gulf that has continued for the last five days.

The prime minister expressed satisfaction over his talks with the Iranian leaders and said that both countries have the same stand on the problem facing the Muslim ummah. He pointed out the deep relations between the two countries which are based on identical history, religion, and cultural relations.

On the Kashmir problem, he said the grave situation in occupied Kashmir is a matter of deep sorrow and great concern for the Pakistani Government and people. He emphasized that the international community, especially the Muslim ummah, should urge India to end its policy

of committing atrocities in occupied Kashmir and to prepare a just solution to this problem.

On the Afghanistan problem, he said that Pakistan is always with Iran for finding a peaceful solution to this problem in accordance with the desires of the Afghan people.

Prior to this, Nawaz Sharif and the Iranian president, 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, exchanged views on the latest in the Gulf situation. Some regional problems were also discussed. Both leaders agreed that the Gulf crisis should be resolved under the purview of the ICO. They said that the ICO should be given a mandate to solve this problem. The avenue and level of consultations should be decided by the ICO secretary general. Iran stressed the need for an unconditional and immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait as well as for a quick solution of the crisis. Iran welcomed the steps made by the Pakistani prime minister to stop the bloodshed. The Iranian president reiterated his country's support for Pakistan on the Kashmir issue and the Afghan problem.

Nawaz Sharif invited the Iranian president to visit Pakistan, and this invitation has been accepted. Prior to this the foreign ministers of both countries have exchanged views on measures taken by Pakistan for a solution to the Gulf crisis.

Radio Pakistan's special correspondent, Reza Zafri, who is covering the prime minister's trip, has said that Nawaz Sharif will leave for Turkey this morning to complete his peace mission.

Velayati, Khan Urge War End

LD2201172791 Tehran IRNA in English 1629 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 22, IRNA—Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan discussed the Persian Gulf war and its dire consequences with his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati, here Tuesday.

Velayati called for an immediate end to the U.S.-led Western bombardment of residential areas inside Iraq, end to the Persian Gulf war, the withdrawal of foreign forces from the region and that of Iraq from Kuwait.

The Iranian foreign minister also repeated call for the holding of an emergency meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to study the issue.

He hoped that ceaseless efforts underway by regional states, even though the conflict has reached a "dangerous stage," would bear its fruits.

Confirming Velayati's views, Yaqub Khan described Iran as the main key for solving the crisis and underlined the need for the countries of the region to continue their consultations and to find a regional solution to the U.S. war against Iraq.

Adverting to the 19th December assassination of Sadeq Ganji, head of Iran's cultural center in Lahore, Yaqub Khan said "Those involved in the assassination either directly or indirectly must be punished severely since the existence of such persons poses danger to Pakistan."

He assured Velayati that Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif was pursuing the issue himself, adding "we are determined to stop such violent actions."

Yaqub Khan is part of the delegation led by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif which arrived in Tehran Tuesday morning.

Velayati Opposes 'Scheme' To Destroy Iraq

LD2301094991 Tehran IRNA in English 0857 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 23, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today condemned the bombing of Iraq's residential areas and rich resources by the multinational forces. "Unfortunately, despite a request by the Islamic Republic of Iran and certain other countries who have good-will, some countries are bent on destroying, dividing and or weakening Iraq so that no government would be able to hold Iraq as a powerful Islamic state in the region," he told a Tehran radio program, "Hello, good morning". This, Velayati said, only served the interests of the Zionist regime of Israel and the Western satellites in the region.

Velayati also voiced Iran's strong opposition to this scheme and said "we will use all our potential to foil this conspiracy."

The foreign minister reiterated Iran's neutral stance in the Persian Gulf war but said "this does not mean that we should not adhere to the principles we believe in." "The Islamic Republic of Iran has been turned to one of the important centers of international efforts to end this devastating war," he said, adding that these efforts had started before the outbreak of the war and were now continuing more effectively.

Among these efforts he mentioned the visit to Tehran of the Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and said another high-level Syrian delegation was due to arrive here this morning. "We are also continuing our contacts with Belgrade, the present chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement [NAM]." He also said some important NAM member states are to visit Tehran in the coming days. He did not name any country.

Israeli Planes Allegedly Using Turkish Air Base

NC2201193191 Tehran International Service in Turkish 21 Jan 91

[Unattributed commentary: "The Turkish People and the Zionist Conspiracies"]

[Text] Correspondents affiliated with reliable sources have reported from Jordan that a number of Israeli aircraft have been transferred from Tel Aviv to Turkey, which is an Islamic country, to bomb the Muslim people of Iraq. In

fact, these aircraft have bombarded the Muslim Iraqi people in northern Iraq during the past two days.

What can anyone do in light of this development? Why should an Islamic country, whose people have experienced glorious stages in the service of Islam for many centuries, place its territory and resources at the disposal of the enemies of Islam? This report saddens and shocks us.

Everyone knows well what Israel is. Likewise, the people of Turkey know the criminal Zionists well. The Muslim people of Turkey are aware of the Zionists' savage massacres of the Muslim Palestinian women and children.

According to a report that was received yesterday, the Zionist dogs shot at a Palestinian woman who was standing close to a window in her house. She was hit several times in her head and chest.

Yes, the whole world knows about Israel's racist nature. In view of this, how can it be possible that Turkey does not? In accordance with which Islamic authorization or in accordance with which Islamic scholar's view have the fighter aircraft of the Zionist Jews been allowed to land in Islamic Turkey? Is the Turkish Government unaware that the armed aircraft taking off from Turkey attack Iraq, dropping hundreds of bombs on Iraqi cities and towns? If the Turkish officials are aware of this, why have they agreed to cooperate with the Zionists?

Ever since Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, and ever since we heard reports that Turkey might be involved in the clash in the Gulf region, Iran has been worried that Turkey, that beautiful country, might be engulfed by the flames of war. What glory will the Turkish Armed Forces gain from Turkey's involvement in the Gulf war? Would massacring Iraqi women and children bring glory to the Turkish Armed Forces? Iran's conviction is that not a single officer or soldier in Turkey wants Turkey to be involved in the war.

Israel is a U.S. pawn. Any doubt about that until two days ago has been eliminated by the gigantic aid the United States has extended to that country. Having created the impression that it is a strong country, Israel failed to defend itself against Iraq's missile attacks. We have observed that the United States has suddenly supplied Israel with a number of Patriot missile systems, regarded as one of the most complex air defense systems. We have also observed that the United States has sent military personnel to man these systems against Iraq.

Israel is the United States and the United States is Israel. Both of them are the sworn enemies of Islam.

Of course, Iran is against the continued occupation of Kuwait. Iran opposed the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait from the beginning and continues to maintain its position. However, is it not true that the resources of yet another Islamic country will be destroyed by the aircraft taking off from Incirlik Air Base to attack Iraq? Will this initiative not destroy the resources of the Islamic world, in which Turkey has an important place, in favor of the enemies of the Turkish people?

Israel Allegedly Planning Attack on Lebanon

LD2201213991 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Military experts have announced that the Zionist regime is making preparations to attack Lebanon. Our colleague has sent a report on that topic from Beirut, which you may hear.

[Begin recording] Following the outbreak of war in the Persian Gulf and the Iraqi missile attacks on occupied Palestine, the possibility that the war may spill over and that the Zionist regime may decide to interfere in the affairs of the region has hightened. Informed observers believe that at present the Zionist regime is preparing to exploit the chaotic situation in the region and to extend its geographic borders. Amid this situation it is very likely that the Zionists will attack Jordan and Lebanon.

Reports coming in from south Lebanon state that during the past few days the army of the Zionist regime has embarked on massive troop movements and deployment of new military hardware in south Lebanon. Meanwhile, gunboats of the Zionist regime have massed on the waters of south Lebanon and are keeping that region under close observation from the sea.

Meanwhile, during the past few days flights by fighters of the Zionist regime over the airspace of south Lebanon have increased.

It is with due regard to these developments that military experts believe that the Zionist regime is preparing itself, if the necessary political conditions are right, to mount an immediate attack on Lebanon to bring unders it occupation an area in south Lebanon at least as far as the region of the Litani River.

Meanwhile, in the wake of movements by the Zionist regime, a massive wave of migration from south Lebanon to safer areas of that country has started. [end recording]

Commentary Stresses Need To Boost Nonoil Exports

NC2301095991 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Text] In the name of God. To further the government policy of providing facilities to boost nonoil exports, a plan to eliminate bureaucratic obstacles to exports and for the purchase and sale of foreign exchange at floating rates came into effect on 21 January.

Under the new scheme and in order to reduce the number of bureaucratic steps required to export commodities and to eliminate unnecessary formalities, the ceiling for exports will be removed for all exporters. Regulations and formalities governing foreign exchange

contracts have also been changed; henceforth, foreign exchange contracts will take the form of the issuance of a permit on presentation of a form with the relevant information and an undertaking by the exporter to return the foreign exchange to the country.

Exporters can now go to banks and, after completing a new form, they can begin exporting their goods. Similarly, exporters can take full advantage of the foreign exchange accruing from their exports and can import goods which have been placed on the free list by the Commerce Ministry against all or part of their foreign exchange earnings. They can also sell their foreign exchange earnings to banks at floating rates; that is, at balanced market prices.

In addition to giving an impetus to exports, the new scheme means that the prices of goods produced domestically will fall because of the increased exports and that the quality of these goods will be enhanced because of competition. Furthermore, the foreign exhange requirements of all exporters whose orders have been registered by the Commerce Ministry will be met without any kind of restrictions. The new facilities also provide for the purchase of foreign exchange from foreign tourists at floating rates, so that Tehran, which has been described as the most expensive city in the world, may be transformed into one of the most inexpensive cities in the world.

Prior to the Islamic Revolution, Iran's foreign trade policy was based entirely on expanding oil exports. Although boosting nonoil exports was described as an important objective of the economic programs, little attention was paid to this. Measures to bolster exports, including exemption from taxes, waiving of customs levies and duties, and other policies providing incentives were put into effect, but on the whole they had little effect.

In any case, as oil exports were the most important source of foreign exchange earnings, they were also the greatest impediment to the growth and expansion of nonoil exports and resulted in complete inattention to this area. With the victory of the Islamic Revolution, attention was directed at nonoil exports to wean the country from being a single-product economy, to provide for foreign exchange needs from diversified sources, and to counteract the increased foreign exchange expenses. A new policy was adopted to expand exports.

Boosting nonoil exports is considered one of the objectives of the country's first plan for socio-economic development. Economic independence and self-sufficiency cannot be achieved by expanding oil exports if the necessary attention is not paid to nonoil exports.

Of course, attention must also be paid to any obstacles to such an expansion, obstacles which are not limited to the country's financial or fiscal policies. By formulating an intensive and comprehensive program on the basis of the country's overall economic objectives and within the framework of a balanced policy, the quantitative and qualitative objectives should be clearly specified. In addition, the policies and commercial facilities necessary to expand nonoil exports, the elimination of dependence on oil income, the formulation of an industrial export policy, and the eventual codification of all amendments and reforms necessary to boost nonoil exports should be planned.

It is hoped that with the implementation of the new foreign exchange scheme by the government within the framework of the five-year plan for socio-economic and cultural development, we will witness a daily-increasing growth of nonoil exports in the country.

Pakistan

Sharif Addresses Nation on Gulf War

BK2201125191 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 21 Jan 91 pp 1, 6

["Text" of address to the nation by Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on 20 Jan; place not given]

[Excerpts] Islamabad, Jan. 20—Pakistan has warned Israel to refrain from aggressive designs otherwise she will have to face serious consequences. The stern warning came from Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif during his address to the nation over Television and Radio networks Sunday evening in which he dilated upon the latest developments in the Gulf and elaborated Pakistan's principled stand and policies. [passage omitted]

Following is the text of Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif's address to the nation.

"In the name of Allah—the most beneficient and the most merciful.

My dear countrymen,

I am addressing you at a very critical and difficult time faced by the Muslim Ummah [community].

The downward trend in the glorious history of the Ummah which had once seen the heights of Usmania Caliphate has reached to a stage where if we are unable to reverse the present trends, the observation of Allama Iqbal that our story will lose the significance in the history might come true.

God Almighty bestowed many potentials and opportunities on us. Had we utilised the opportunities and taken benefit out of them we would have not faced a situation like this. Pakistan was created as one of the greatest Muslim countries of the world under the leadership of Quaid-i-Azam [Muhammad Ali Jinnah]. This was a gift of God to us. Had we preserved it in a better way, we would have made it prosperous and invincible Islamic state. In that way the whole Islamic world could have benefitted from the fruits of the development of this Islamic state.

But alas, we allowed ourselves to become prey to the destructive forces and not only lost half of the country but rendered a state having the potential of becoming a great Islamic country into a beggar.

Today, my heart is full of grief and sorrow. The most sophisticated and dangerous armaments are being tested in our region. The memories of wounds of ten lakh Afghan martyrs are still afresh. We could not also forget the grief and sorrow caused by the loss of 15 lakh Muslims during the meaningless Iran-Iraq war. Before the after-effects of the havoc caused by this war could be over, a new tragedy has fallen on the Muslims. There is not even a single Muslim who is not sad at this destruction. As far as Pakistan is concerned, it has always maintained its relations with Islamic community based on love and goodwill. Wherever the Muslims in the world faced any difficulty Pakistan was the first country to rush for their help. But in the present Gulf crisis, we are faced with a new situation. At one end, there is Saudi Arabia which has always helped Pakistan in every hour of its trial. During 1965 and 1971 wars, when we were fighting our war of survival, Saudi Arabia extended us moral, political and financial help to such an exent that it is hard to find an example in the history of nations. The attitude of Saudi Arabia on the issues confronting Muslims has always remained like that of an affectionate and loving brother. During Afghan Jihad, Saudi Arabia helped us so much that it cannot be counted in material terms. Whenever Pakistan faced a difficult situation, we found Saudi Arabia standing by us. Not only this. When the Babri Mosque issue cropped up in India, it was Saudi Arabia which raised its voice first of all in favour of the Muslims. Our ideological and mental links with Saudi Arabia are not only historical but deep-rooted as well.

At the other end, there is Iraq which has neither recognised Islamic links, nor has it ever maintained friendly relations with Pakistan. I don't now want to go into details but the people of Pakistan know it well that right from the issue of Kashmir to Afghanistan, Iraq has never sided with us on any issue.

From Pakistan's point of view, if we make a comparison between the attitudes of Saudi Arabia and Iraq, it will be clear as to what stand we should have taken in this present situation. But in case of Islamic countries Pakistan does not merely take their interest into consideration rather. We always give preference to principles and we have been sacrificing our national interests whenever the question of Islamic brotherhood confronted us. You are well aware of the price paid by Pakistan for extending full support to freedom movement of Palestinian Muslims. This is the guiding principle for which we have sided with Palestinians. Keeping in view the same principle, we condemned the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. Not only Pakistan, but the entire Islamic world has opposed Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. The stand of Iraq that Kuwait had been its part in the past, can create a number of complicated issues. On this pretext, powerful countries in the world can occupy their neighbouring countries which had been their parts in the past.

Dear Countrymen!

On principles, Pakistan has not taken this stand for the first time. From Kashmir to Palestine, and from Kampuchea to Panama, wherever any attempt was made to snatch the freedom of a nation by brute force, we did not budge from our principled stand under the pressure of any Superpower. When we helped Mujahidin against the Russian aggression on Afghanistan, we did not care about the dangers looming over our sovereignty. We jumped into this fire without caring about the dangers. It is the blessings of Allah Almighty that the aggressors had to admit their defeat. We never accepted foreign pressure on principles.

To expect from me that my Government would succumb to American pressure would tantamount to deny a reality. [Sentence as received] My nation has elected me in the hope that I should withstand against all kinds of pressures and tell them that Pakistanis are a proud and self-respecting nation.

Just after assuming office after popular verdict I had broken the beggar's bowl by which we were treated like salves in return for some loves of aid. To blame a Government which has liberated the country from beggars' bowl of succumbing to pressure is against all cannons of justice and honesty.

My dear countrymen!

Our policy is based on principles in the current Gulf crisis. We are striving hard to stop bloodshed there, which, if continued will destroy Muslims politically, economically, and militarily. We were visualising of great Islamic unity and solidarity. We thanked Almighty Allah at the end of disastrous Iran-Iraq war. We were hoping that the help provided to Iraq by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait during this war would generate new relations of brotherhood and equity among them. We had hoped that in the changing scenario Iran and Gulf States would come closer to each other. We were expecting that sacrifices of intifada in occupied Palestine would bear fruits. And we were also nourishing a hope that the freedom struggle of oppressed Kashmiris would succeed in shaking up the Islamic world. But due to Iraq's attack on Kuwait the wave of unity and solidarity among Islamic community has again fallen prey to disunity. We are grieved at these divisions. This is a very painful moment when a Muslim has to chose between the two fighting nations. It was not an easy decision for us also. That is why we made efforts to solve Kuwait problem peacefully, we tried our level best at diplomatic levels. I personally wrote a letter to President Saddam appealing him to withdraw his forces forthwith from Kuwait in order to save Iraq and rest of the Arab world from massive destruction. But I am sorry to say that he did not listen to any of us and provided a pretext to the enemies to achieve the aim of destroying the wealth and power of Arabs by exploiting the Iraqi aggression. Who does not know that who is being benefited from this destruction?

And who provided the opportunity to win such sympathies and such power to the biggest enemy of Islam?

Dear countrymen!

We have deep historical cultural and religious relations with people of Iraq. Iraq is situated in our neighbourhood. My heart bleeds when a Muslim is hurt in any corner of the world. I feel extremely sorry for the death and destruction of Iraqi people. This land of Haz-rat Ali (RA) [Rahmatullah Alaihe—may God's blessings be upon him] Shuhada-i-Karbala and Hazrat Shah Abdul Qadir Jilani (RA), Hazrat Imam-i-Azam (RA) is sacred to all Muslims and to me equally. Like you, I am also grieved over this double standard of the world. We are inhabitants of a civilized world. We shall have to resolve our problems in a civilized manner. I demand that the indiscriminate bombardment on the Iraqi population should be stopped forthwith. And I appeal to Saddam Husayn that in order to prevent further devastation of his own nation and other Muslims, he should announce immediate withdrawal of his forces from Kuwait.

My dear Countrymen!

If the process of destruction continues, it is feared that Israel could try to fulfill its long-standing ambition of establishing its hegemony on the Arab world. I warn Israel to refrain from its aggressive designs. Otherwise, it shall have to face serious consequences. As far as the issue of the presence of Pakistani troops in Saudi Arabia is concerned, this is not a controversial matter. Saudi Arabia was a target of a real threat after the invasion of Kuwait. Whadim-i-Harmain Sharifain [Custodian of the Holy Places in Saudi Arabia] asked Pakistan to send in limited troops for the protection of our religous sanctuaries. This is indeed an honour for Pakistan. There is no Muslim in the world who would not respond to the call of such a religious duty.

The solider of Pakistan is the soldier of Islam. In the current Gulf crisis there was a possibility of some kind of descrated guerrilla activity on Bajfullah [House of God in Mecca] and Roza of Harrat Muhammad (SA) [Sallallaho Alaihe wa Sal'am—may the blessing and mercy of God be upon him] This apprehension was not unfounded. The limited army contingents sent to Saudi Arabia by Pakistan are not taking part in any aggressive activity. They are there to safeguard the Holy places. They are not under the U.S. Command. The soldier of Pakistan cannot commit agression against any Muslim country. But we are ready to sacrifice our lives for the safeguard of Kaaba and the Roza-i-Rasul [Tomb of the Holy Prophet] (SA).

As I have mentioned in the beginning. We are passing through very delicate and painful moments of Islamic history. I can motivate the people to raise slogans of 'Nawaz Sharif Zindabaaad [Long Live]' by emotional talks, but it would not be in the interest of Pakistan. And the interest of Pakistan is more dear to me than my ownself and you know that the mutual disunity and conflict of Muslims have brought their downfall. During this period of frial, I would appeal to you to maintain unity in your ranks and do not provide any pretext to anyone else to create disunity among us.

My dear countrymen!

The relations between you and me are based on sincerity and truthfulness I have always talked plain truths. The situation in Gulf is changing every moment. My Government is having a close watch on these changing circumstances keeping in view the interest of Pakistan. You have always reposed confidence in me and I have also tried my best to come up to your expectations and trust without any expediency and personal likes and dislikes. The bonds of truth between us, will inshallah, last forever, and whatever decision I will take that would be in the interest of Pakistan and Islam."

Pakistan Paindabad. [long live]

Khan Opposes Israeli 'Hegemony', Supports Saudis

BK2001115891 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] The president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has declared Pakistan's opposition to any attempt to entrust the hegemony of the Gulf area to Israel. He was talking to newsmen in Islamabad this morning. Replying to a question about Pakistan's reaction if Israel attacks Iraq, the president categorically stated that we will be with the rest of the Muslim ummah. He recalled that Pakistan was one of the first countries which had opposed Israel and its creation since 1940 even before we achieved our own independence.

To another question regarding Pakistan's policy toward the current Gulf conflict, the president explained that Pakistan is opposed to aggression anywhere in the world. The reason for this is our basic stand that our own survival and security is enshrined in respect for the internationally accepted principle of mutual coexistence. If this principle is trampled under foot, small countries like ours, who are the targets of aggressive designs of others, stand to suffer. It was for this reason that Pakistan had opposed the violation of the principle of mutual coexistence wherever it had occurred, be it Kashmir, Afghanistan, Panama, or Grenada.

He described Pakistan's policy toward the conflict as sound and principled and said it was in the national interest and aimed at solidarity of ummah.

About Pakistani troops in Saudi Arabia, he said these were meant purely for the internal security of our friend—Saudi Arabia—which has stood by us in difficult times.

Replying to a question, the president again urged Iraq to withdraw its aggression against Kuwait. He regretted that Pakistan's efforts earlier for a peaceful settlement of the matter and for accepting a cease-fire had met with no response. He however said Pakistan will continue its efforts in this context and added that peace will return automatically once Iraqi forces leave Kuwait.

Pro-Iraqi Crowd Attacks Newspaper Office

BK2001152891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1503 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 20 (AFP)—Pro-Iraqi demonstrators protesting "censored" coverage of the Gulf conflict attacked a leading Pakistani daily's offices in Multan City Sunday, witnesses said.

A general strike paralysed the Punjab Province city of three million and demonstrations continued throughout the day. Shops and business centres in the city of three million remained shut, they said.

Protestors blocked traffic and burnt tyres, witnesses said.

Popular feeling in favour of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is sweeping the country and some 10,000 Pathan tribesmen in the remote border town of Jamrud vowed to join the "jihad (holy war)" against the allied forces, reports said.

Pakistan joined the U.S.-led multinational buildup in the Gulf and deployed 10,000 troops in Saudi Arabia ahead of the oubreak of hostilities.

Protestors, waving posters of Mr. Husayn and chanting anti-U.S. slogans, called upon the government to withdraw its forces, witnesses said.

As they reached the building of Urdu-language daily NAWA-I-WAQT, the stone-throwing crowd protested the war coverage by Pakistan's second biggest newspaper and repeatedly tried to enter the premises, they said.

One group scaled the gates and torched six vehicles and motorbikes owned by the staff, witnesses said.

The management said demonstrators also set fire to newsprint stored in the building, but the fire was brought under control and machinery was not damaged.

The conservative NAWA-I-WAQT is Pakistan's oldest newspaper, published simultaneously in Lahore, Rawalpindi and Multan.

Sources in Multan said the attack was an expression of anger against alleged "anti-Saddam propaganda" carried by Western media, which critics here say ignore Iraq's version of the war.

Separately, a rally by fundamentalists damaged cinemas and speakers called for a boycott of the state-run radio and television, the sources said.

In the Punjab capital of Lahore, students took part in a big procession to express solidarity with Iraq, witnesses said.

The demonstration was organised by the Muslim Student Federation (MSF), the youth wing of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League, they said.

Witnesses said the MSF activists raised slogans criticising Islamabad's Gulf policy.

The main opposition Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) of former Premier Benazir Bhutto also held rallies at Karachi and Multan where ranking party leaders called upon the Sharif government to change its foreign policy.

A bomb blast in nearby Rawalpindi late Saturday killed five people and injured 47.

Iraqi Official Declared Persona Non Grata

BK1801154891 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Jan 91

[Text] The Iraqi charge de'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office today and was informed of the government's decision to declare (Jasim M.J. al-Shaykh), press counselor at the Iraqi Embassy, as persona non grata. The charge d'affaires was told that (Jasim al-Shaykh) is involved in activities incompatible with his diplomatic status and which are totally inconsistent with diplomatic norms. He was told that (Jasim al-Shaykh) incited certain elements to hold protest demonstrations against the government posing a threat to the lives and properties of the common people. He has also been providing financial assistance for publication of propaganda materials against the state and also made arrangement for recruiting people.